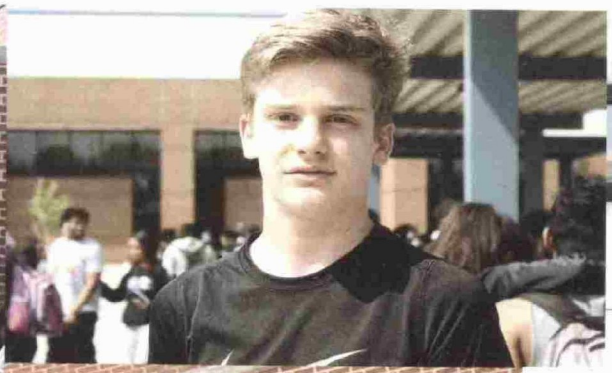
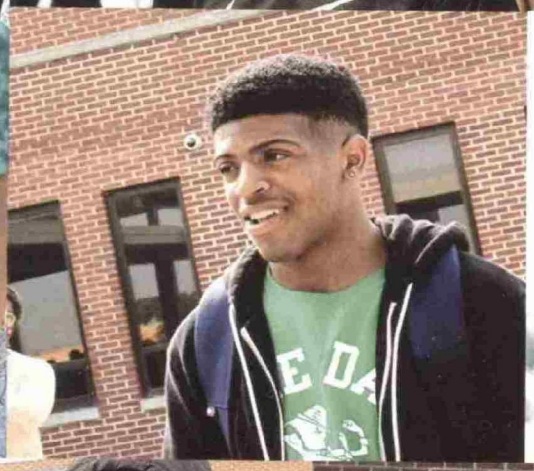
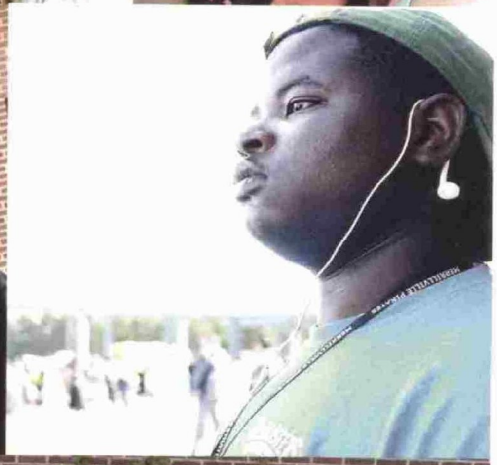
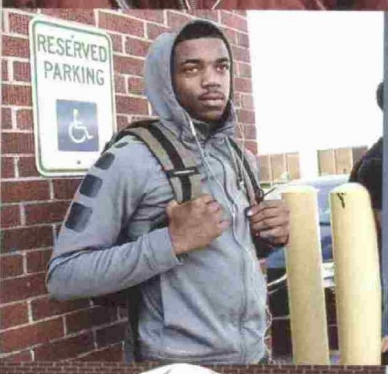
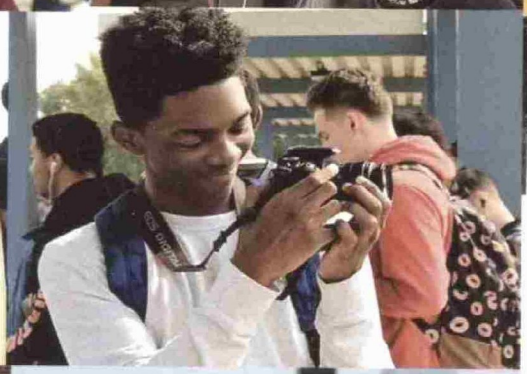
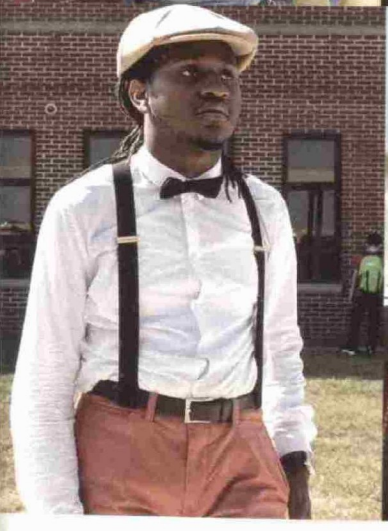
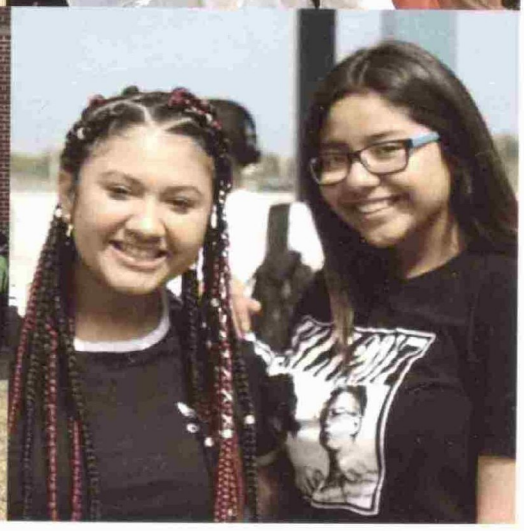
the Way we See it



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Photos by I. Johnson

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the way we see it

The way we see it is defined by every single person's own unique experience. But, there are some things that we can all discuss in the same way. The way Mr. Krutz says "Go Pirates" at the end of each announcement, or how we can hear him from inside the classroom yell down the hall, "Yo, where's your ID." Pirate pride is demonstrated in a number of different ways. From wearing purple on game days and cheering the loudest in the stands during home games to representing your club during events. Students see their passion from the stage, or behind a computer, or in front of the camera, or with a pencil and paper in hand. In the end, we see our lives at Merrillville High School through the same lens and we can all say: "Once a Pirate, always a Pirate."

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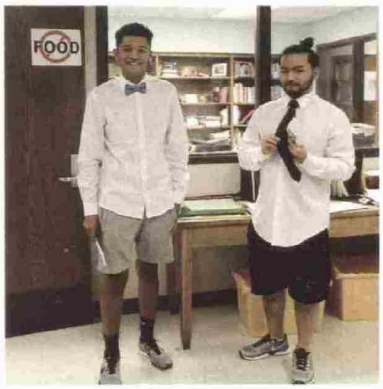
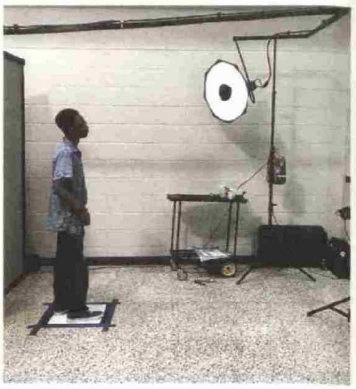
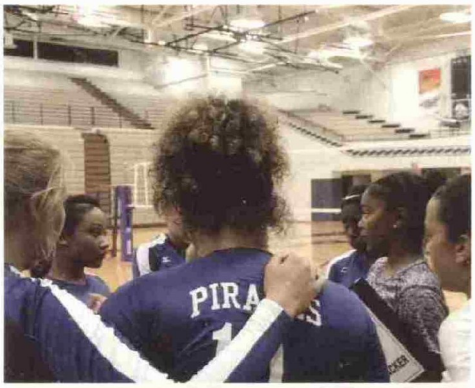
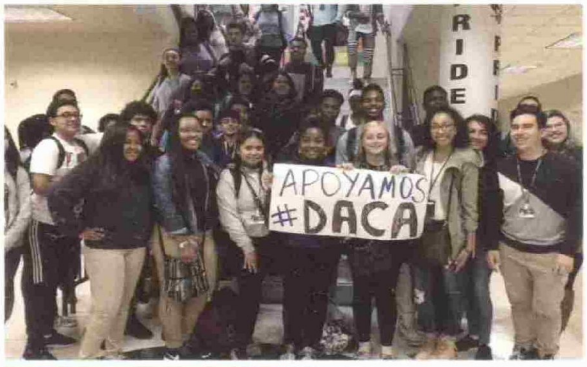
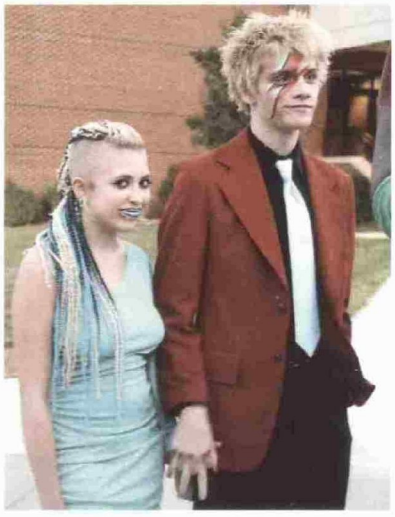


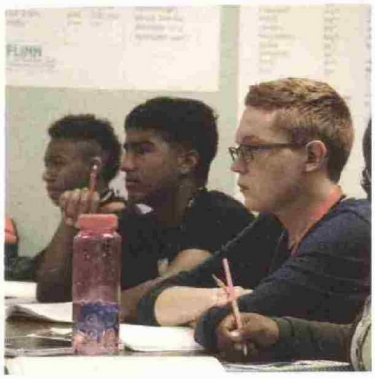
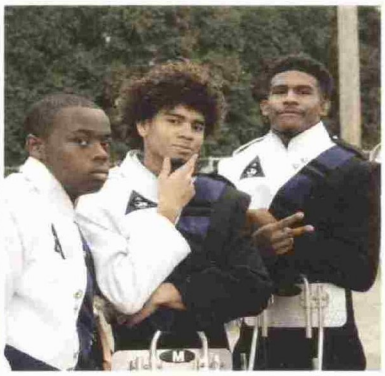


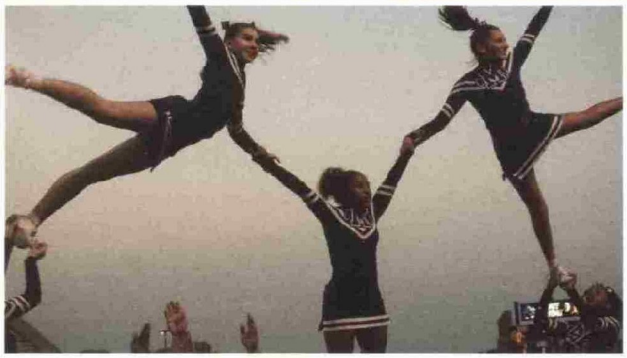






FALL

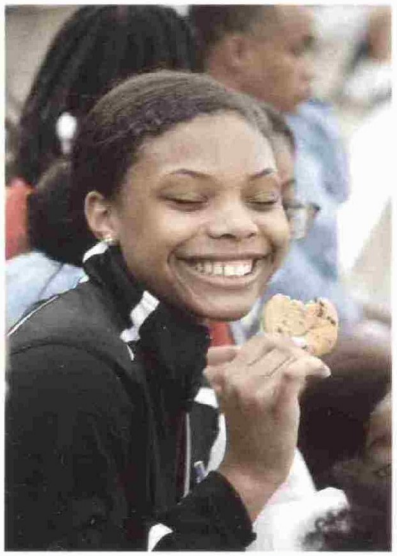
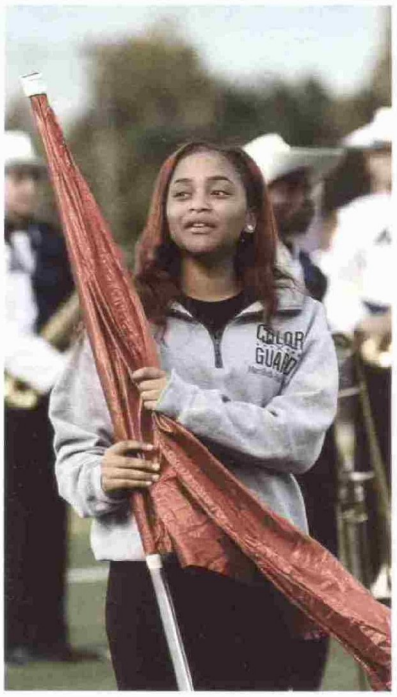





Routine in the Leaves

As summer comes to an end we begin to fall
back in habit
Filing onto the golden greyhound
Falling into its seats and passing
neighborhoods beamed with sunshine
And laughter
And the smiles of children
Autumn pulling every mind from recreation
to education.
Raising every hand
Anticipating its question answered
Fall makes learning underneath the rain sound
like history droplets leaving the sky
Books flipping through their pages
to find a blank one for us to write our own story
Hands hold fall like a pen
tracing through schedules and mental maps
of hallways
Welcoming friends to lunch tables and cutting
people in line
This is a new season for learning
For sports
For friendship
And for the start of a great year

// Ja'Leah Walker

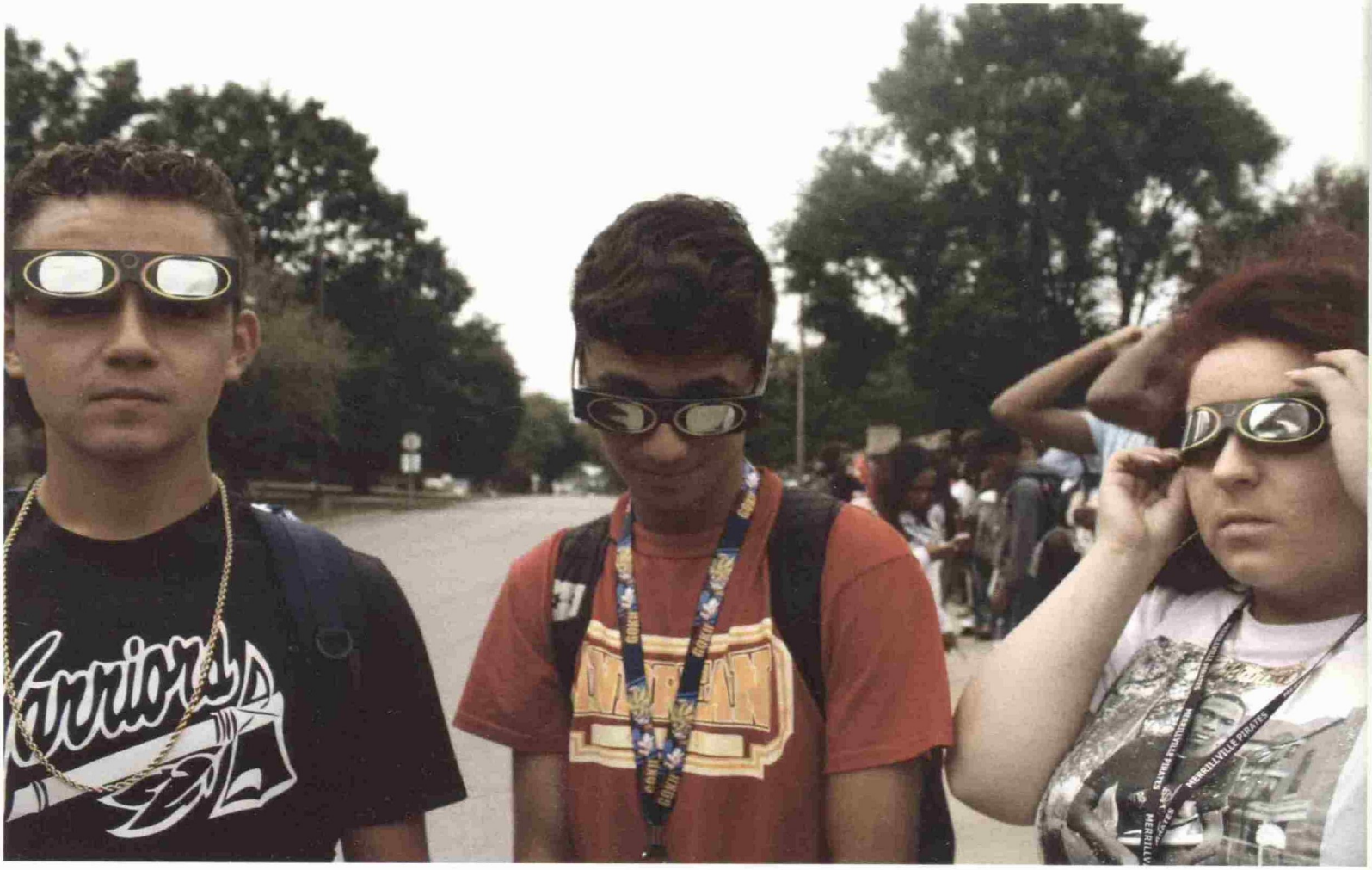
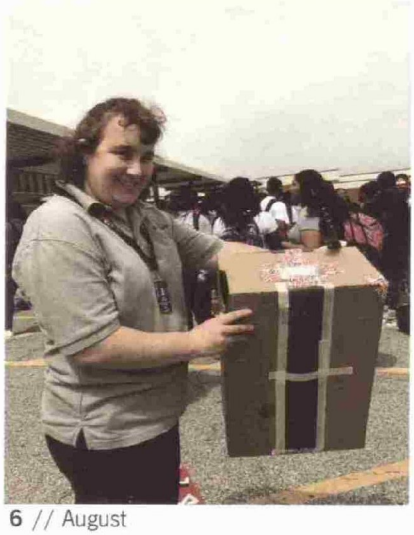


Photo by D. Castaneda

eyes on the skies

students see the eclipse through their safety glasses

In the afternoon of Aug. 21, 2017, Merrillville students witnessed the moon pass in front of the sun for the first time in more than three decades. Nicknamed "The Great American Eclipse," this event became a media frenzy and got students around America excited about science. With glasses sent over from the Merrillville Community Planetarium, we were one of the few high schools that were able to participate in the viewing of this rare event. The glasses were a hot commodity and only approved NASA glasses were safe to use. Styling in his safety glasses, Marcos Hernandez (12) poses for a picture with Jorge Gaona (12) and Lianna Celestin (12). "There was a lot of hype to it but it was kind of anticlimactic because as soon as you put the glasses on, the only thing you could see was a little dot," Hernandez said.



Q&A through a science teacher's eyes Q&A

Asking chemistry teacher Rhonda Waters a few questions

What is a solar eclipse?

Solar eclipse happens when the moon travels between the Earth and the sun. Partially or fully blocking the direct sunlight to the Earth.

How does your homemade solar eclipse viewer work?

The homemade view allows for viewing of the eclipse without the risk of damaging your eyes. The eclipse is projected on the back of the box.

Have you ever seen an eclipse before?

Yes I have seen an eclipse before. When I was in junior high school, we made the homemade viewers to watch the eclipse.

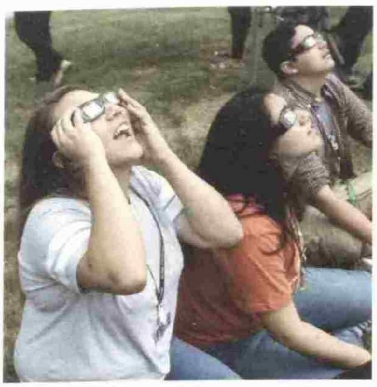
How often do they occur?

Eclipses happen two to five times a year but are not always visible from the United States. There will be one that will be a total eclipse for Indianapolis in 2024.

How do the solar eclipse glasses work?

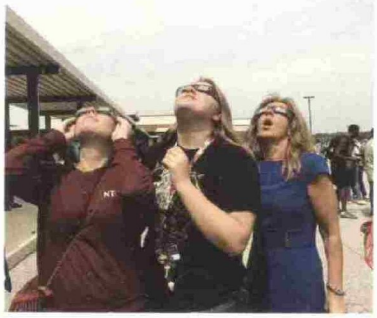
The glasses block enough of the light so that you can safely view the solar eclipse without damage to your eyes.

Interview & Photo // M. Murphy



Awesome moment // With an amazed look, Treasure Green (12) holds her glasses to her face to view the eclipse. "It was a new experience because we never did that kind of thing during school," Green said. Despite not knowing much about the eclipse, she was aware of the dangers of viewing it with unprotected eyes. "This is something that I would tell my kids about," Green said. // Photo by D. Castaneda

Best seat in the house // Lying on the ground, Dameon Pinkins (11) gets the most out of the experience. "We could barely see the eclipse how we were supposed to because we're all the way in Indiana and the best view was in Texas, but it was decent," Pinkins said. Like most students, he was excited to just be out of school and in the fresh air. // Photo by D. Castaneda

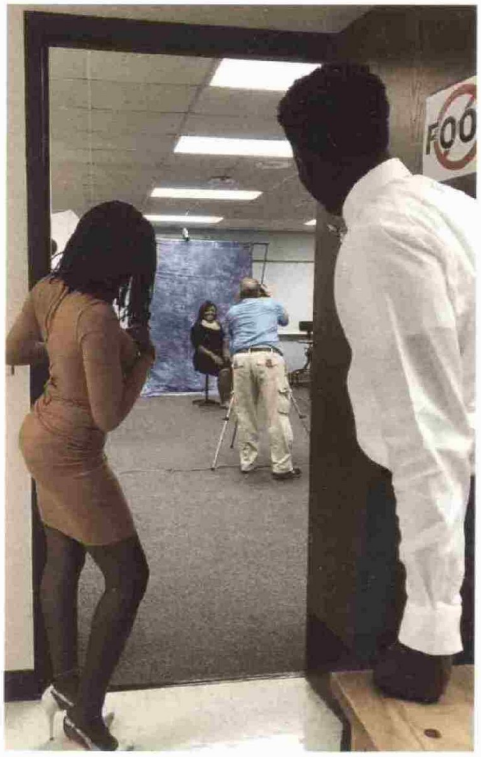


A family affair // Experiencing the eclipse with her mom, treasurer Lena Kiser, and friend Kayla Miller (12), Autumn Kiser (12) stares up in amazement. "It really opened my eyes to what this world has given us the privilege to experience in life," Kiser said. Kiser is looking forward to sharing this experience with her baby nephew when he gets older. "I will tell my nephew that it's like nothing you'll ever feel in life again," Kiser said. "I really hope people know how lucky they are to experience these things." // Photo by M. Murphy

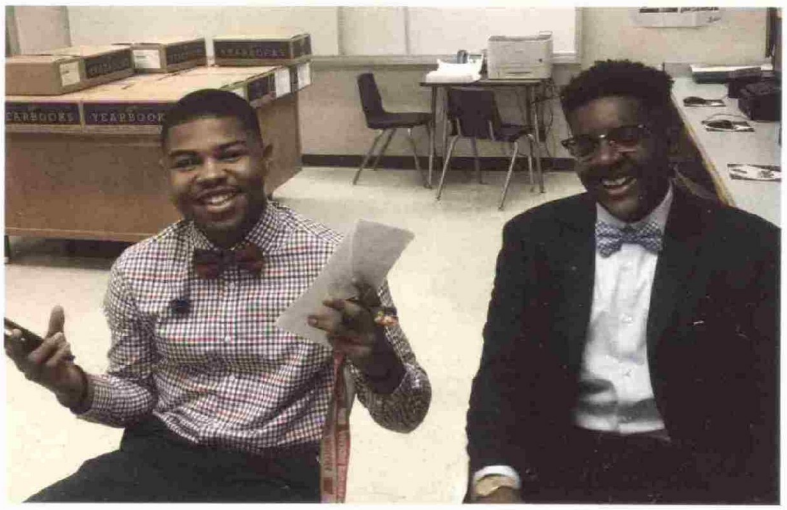
Mr. Krutz's point of view

Principal Mike Krutz began with recalling the first eclipse he saw back in 1979. He was right when he said that this experience is something that will come up in conversation years from now. "The more educational experiences you have, the broader your base becomes," he said. The planning for this event was sparked by Mrs. Marnita Taylor, director of secondary curriculum and instruction, and Mr. Gregg Williams, director of the planetarium. "I was thoroughly impressed with the way students reacted, and I believe we hit a home run," Mr. Krutz said. Mr. Krutz called his old classmate Sgt. Brad Best into his office to give his insight on the solar eclipse they experienced three decades ago. Jokingly, Sgt. Best said that they ditched school and went to the beach to view the eclipse. They agreed that the only thing that could have made this experience better would be if mother nature cooperated a little better.

Making her laugh // Peering through the doorway at Madison Bullock (12), Allure Calhoun (12) and Maliq Cherry (12) watch as she gets her senior picture taken. "We were making faces at Madison so that she could look more enthusiastic in the picture," Calhoun said. They did their best to make sure that Madison had the best smile for her picture. "Having my senior picture in the yearbook shows that I finally made it," Calhoun said. Cherry believes that having a picture in the yearbook "symbolizes your year and all the people that you end up growing up with." // Photo by M. Murphy



Seniors are camera ready



Best buds // Practicing their smiles for the camera, Robert Sanders (12) and Bryan Fields (12) show excitement for getting their senior pictures taken. "For my outfit, I didn't want to be too flashy, but I didn't want to do all black either," Sanders said. Finding the right balance was important, but some students didn't bother creating a whole outfit because only the top half was shown. // Photo by M. Bullock

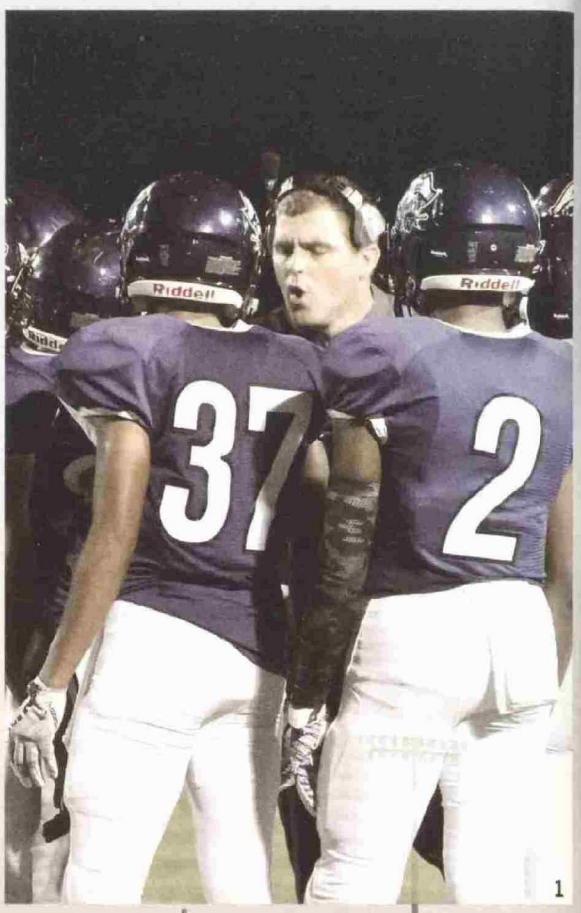
battle of broadway

Every year, students and athletes anticipate one of the most talked about game of the year, The Battle of Broadway. While the team takes every game they play seriously, this game against Andrean sparks something in them that drives them the extra mile.

"We have a hate red week where we can't mention or wear the color read," lineman Ryan Atkins (12) said. "If you wear red, you have to run or the other teammates take it out on you."

The game is also a focal point for the students in marching band.

"We emphasize on playing as best as we can. We know it's going to be our biggest turnout and we want to show out as best as we can," Drum Major John Sawyer (12) said. "This kind of game is Merrillville's chance to assert dominance and take control over Broadway. You're playing for acknowledgement in your town."



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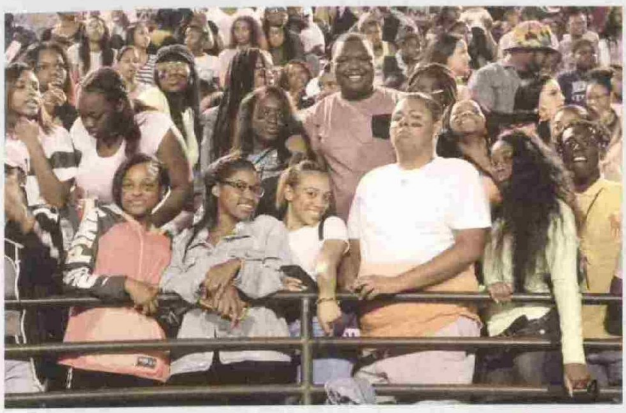
2. They've got the beat // Playing the quad drums, Paul Lopez (11), Cameron Figueroa (12) and Maurice Morgan (10) perform a cadence. "We were killing it, I mean just look at how intense we are staring at the drums," Figueroa said, adding that playing Andrean is special. "It's like your neighbor is talking trash about your yard and you have to show them who runs the neighborhood." // Photo by D. Castaneda

1. Words of wisdom // During a timeout, Xaiver Griffin (12), listens as Coach Brad Seiss addresses the team on the sidelines. "This game was more personal for us because we wanted to be the champions of Broadway; that's what made it more intense," Griffin said. // Photo by A. Robinson

3. Tuba time // Keeping the crowd entertained, Johnny Davis (9) performs with the rest of the marching band. Davis has been playing since sixth grade and said that although his parents get annoyed, he still practices at home. // Photo by D. Castaneda

7. Defensive pressure // After stopping Andrean, linebacker Zaire Moss (12) and the rest of the team leave the field. "This season we struggled, but I had a lot of fun playing with my brothers, the people I love," Moss said. // Photo by A. Robinson

Background photo by D. Castaneda



4. Super fans // In the student section, Jadah Yanders (12), Keana Dorris (12), Timeah Hicks (12), Jaime Alvarez (12), Michonn Cherry (11), Maliq Cherry (12) Dewanna Kimble (12), and Paul Pitts (12) pose for the camera. "The student section is kind of lit and we have a lot of fun getting the crowd going and making sure everyone is cheering on," Alvarez said. Alvarez makes sure to get to games early so he can get a good seat. // Photo by A. Robinson

5

5. Pregame hype // Leading the cheers, Senior Captain Dontrell Pope helps prepare everyone before the game. "Hyping each other up gets the nervousness out of you," Pope said. "Before you get on the field you feel little butterflies, so having someone help motivate you changes your perspective." // Photo by A. Robinson

6

6. On the mark // Keeping his eyes down field, quarterback Cameron Wright (11) throws a screen pass to the slot receiver. "I motivate myself. I just love playing football. I've been playing since I've been little, so I just want to make it one day," Wright said. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

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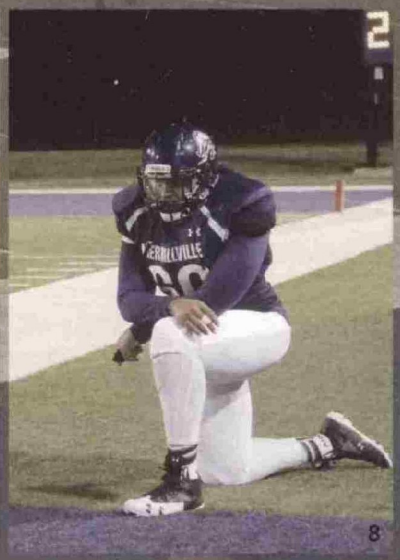

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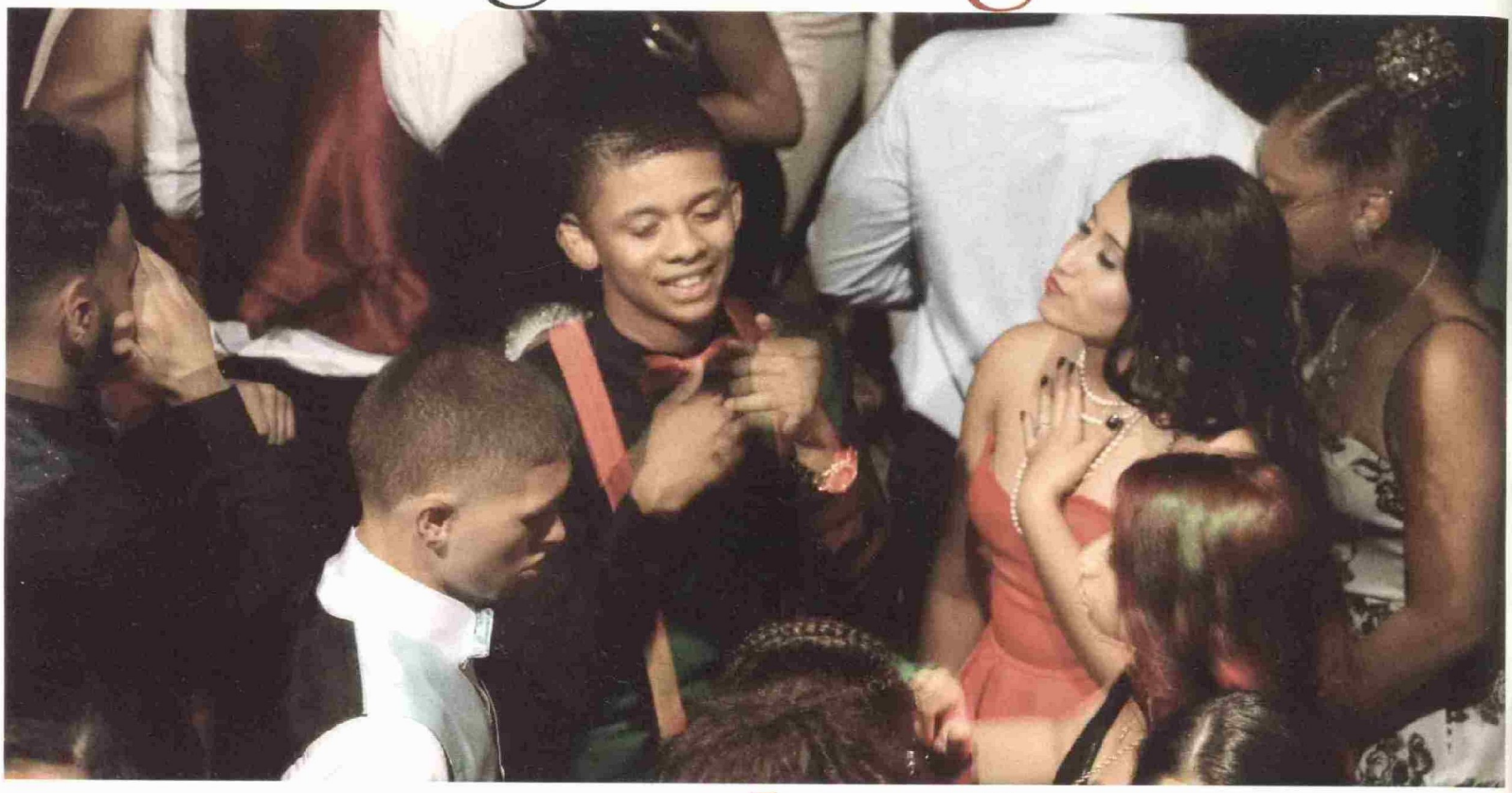
8. A moment of reflection // After getting off the field, Ryan Atkins (12) stops to think about the previous play. "Although we played hard, we just couldn't convert," said Atkins, who had one of the biggest hits of the game. This was one of the team's most challenging games. "One reason it was a harder game was because we went into the game automatically thinking we would win," Atkins said. // photo by A. Robinson

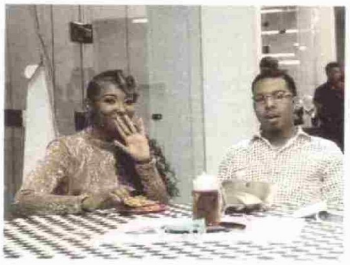
dancing *through the* decades



Freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors alike dance the night away at the 2017-2018 Homecoming Dance.

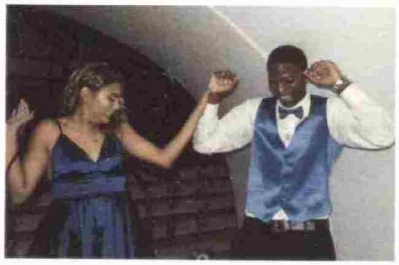
It was a pretty hot and dry evening on the 23rd of September, but high schoolers of each division came to have a night filled with fun, food and phones in Merrillville High School's Hall of Flags. "One of the best moments was when they played 'Making My Way Downtown (A Thousand Miles by Vanessa Carlton)'," Leslie Telemachus Hudson (10) said. "It was so funny that they actually played that song." "Bodak Yellow" by Cardi B was another highlight of the evening that lured many out on the dance floor to bust some moves. Others sat back and relaxed near concessions to have their picture taken or simply to chat and laugh with friends.

Pay it forward// In the wake of the devastating Hurricane Harvey, donations stack up in the Guidance Office. Those who donated supplies for Harvey's victims received a $5 discount off of their Homecoming ticket.

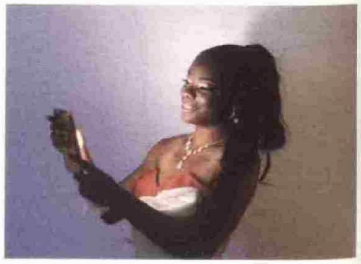


Say cheese // Dajamori Brown (12) enjoys a cheese pizza with her date, graduate Rico Joseph, at the dance.

'50s dancing dolls // Mindie Cuozzo (9) puts on her best '50s face with Miranda Cuozzo (12) and Briana Thomas (10).

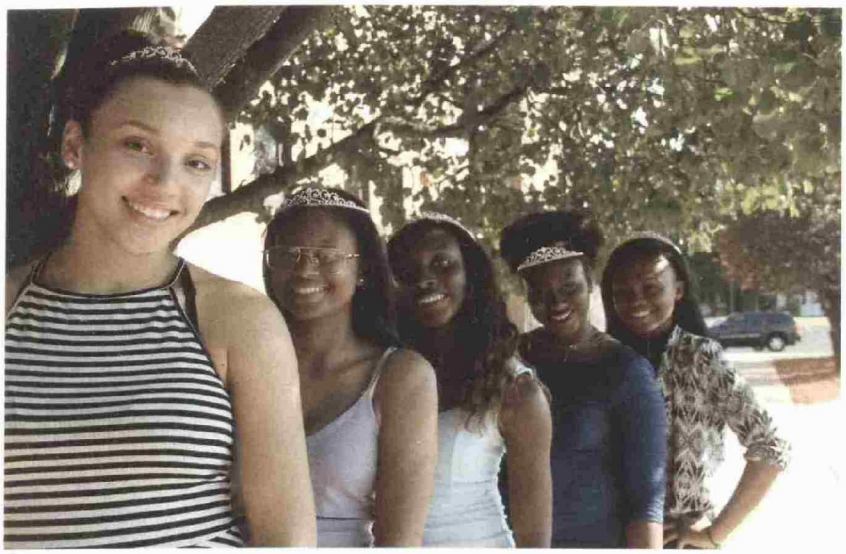


Dance the night away // Prysma Valdivia (12) and her date Dominic Bethel (12) bust some moves on the dance floor.



A fab photo // Nya Russell (10) takes out her phone for a selfie to sport her glamorous look at the Homecoming Dance.

Unless noted, all photos by A. Edwards

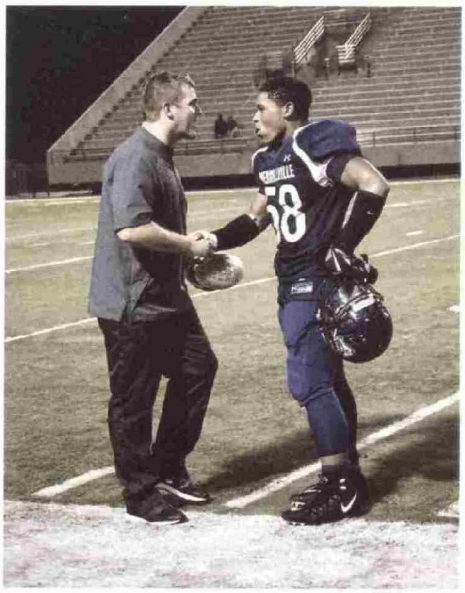


crowning the *queens*

Lovely ladies // Perfecting their smiles, Homecoming Queen nominees Shelby Harmon (12), Ke'leica Junigan (12), Diamond Morris (12), Mia Godfrey (12), and Cara Blanford (12) pose after the parade. The next night, the student body roared as royalty graced the football field, and Harmon received her crown and bouquet. "I felt excited," Harmon said. "It was so surreal. I never saw myself as Homecoming Queen; I thought I was too much of a jock."

mr.football

The main man// As cheers and applause echo throughout Demaree Stadium, Coach Brad Seiss congratulates Michael Shell (12) on his new title as Mr. Football, "I was just really happy and excited that my hard work paid off," Shell said. // Photo by Z. Nickson

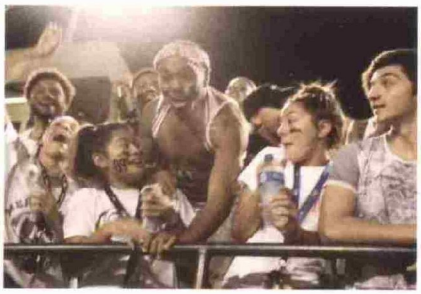


Snap the moment // Emily Lesich (12) and her peers whip out their phones to capture the crowning of the queen at halftime.

Pumpin' up the Pirates // Ah'zsur Ursery (12) makes sure that his Pirate pride is known throughout the stadium.

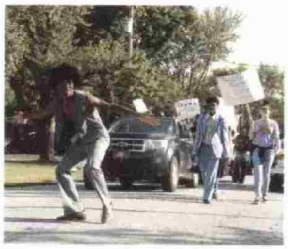
A fumbling failure // Alexes Johnson (10) reacts to the Pirates' devastating loss with frustration.

Crowd goes crazy // Jasmine Jaramillo (12), Taijah Smith (11), Tyler Russell (12) and Christian Glover (12) anxiously watch, hoping for a victory.



homecoming *p a r a d e*

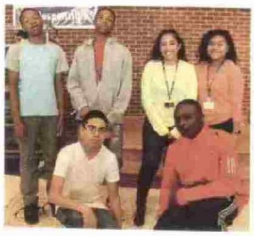
Music man // Justyn Jones (10) plays with the band during the parade. "It was hot," Jones said, "but being in band is so fun that you'd do anything for it."



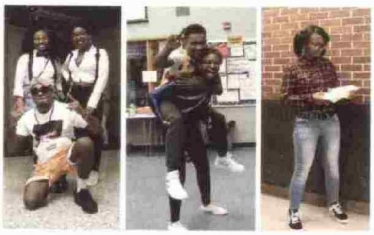
Funky fun // Exhausted but ecstatic, JaKobe Wilbon (12) makes sure the energy stays high during the Homecoming Parade.

Leaders of the lane // Freshmen Andrea Tapia, Jameelah Ali, Amira Hamed, Ayanna Edwards, Hayley Moss, and Makayla Jones represent the Class of 2021.

spirit week

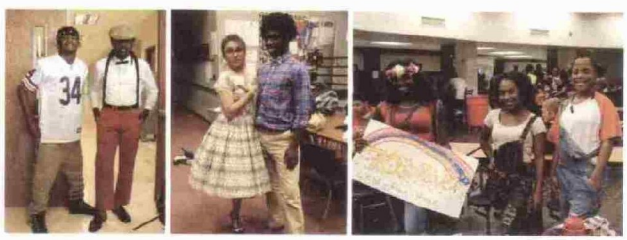


monday
class color day
Top Row: Freshmen Clifford Mathis-Billups, Roy Akins, Yadira Sanchez, Stephanie Millan
Bottom Row: Joshua Lopez (10), De'Ante Windrom (9)



tuesday
mathletes vs athletes/ wacky tacky day
Left: Serena Robertson (11), Kennedy Cole (12), Ah'zsur Ursery (12)
Middle: Jakobe Wilbon (12), Kylah Nicholson (11)
Right: Armani Smith (12)

wednesday
twin day
Left: Sha'lynn James (12), MaKala James (11) **Right:** Jasmine Collins (12) and Kennedi Davis (12)// Photo by L. Mesarch



thursday
decades day
Left: Paul Lopez (11) and Trayvon Cargo(11)
Center: Jasmine Jaramillo (12) and Jordan Munchenburg (11)
Right: Jadyn Lawson (11), Cheyenne Roberts (11) and Morgan Turner (10)

Formation // With a view from above, Bryan Sobczak (11) helps conduct the Band of Pirates for the halftime show vs. Andrean. // Photos by A. Robinson.

moving to the *beat*

2017-18 Marching Season
"A Tribute to Michael Jackson"

Kankakee Valley HS Invitational: SILVER with Percussion Achievement

Highland HS Invitational : GOLD with Music Achievement

ISSMA State Marching Band Festival at Crown Point HS: GOLD

This year's halftime show had people dancing in the stands. The Michael Jackson tribute was popular with both the band members and the audience.

The band worked long hours starting in the summer and often practiced for hours in the brutal heat to perfect their movements. "Everyone was working hard, and it seemed like everyone was enjoying it and wanted to be there," Senior Drum Major John Sawyer said. The songs included "The Way You Make Me Feel," "Bad" and "Thriller."

The theme of the show made it even more entertaining. "I thought it would be really fun especially the costume design and stuff," he said. "It was an amazing show. The pieces that we played were fun. And when we threw in movements like dancing that was enjoyable, too." The music proved to be a hit at competitions, Sawyer said. "We had people in the crowd dancing and singing."

Leaders of the band // Standing at attention, drum majors John Sawyer (12), Bryan Sobczak (11), and Kayla Josleyn (12) conduct the band for half-time shows and competition.

Striking a note // One of the non-marching members, Cole Frey (12) strikes the xylophone on the sidelines. The members of the pit helped set the tone, and Frey played an important role. "I have to keep the pit in line to teach them their music," he said.

Keeping the beat // From left, drumline members Aubin Robinson (11), Daniel Lewis (11), Joseph White (11), Paul Lopez (11), and Xavier Scott (11) keep it loose on the sidelines.

building skills for the future

Hammer time // Showing off their skills, Juan Carillo (12), left, and Daniel Barajas (12) compete in a skills competition as part of their Building Trades class. Larell Dow (11), Noah Pryor (11), Deondre Todd (11), Brandon Platts (11) and Jairus Sykes (11) give encouragement. // Photos by L. Espinoza.

Building Trades students participated in a first-ever skills games. "I had the event so the students could test their newly learned skills in a friendly competition," teacher Dane Glass said. "The students gave a great effort and played within the rules I set up." The top finishers were Michael Shell (12), Deondre Todd (11) and Jairus Sykes (11).

Nailed it! // Facing off, Jawanza Williams (11) and Tramone Woods (11) compete to see who can hammer nails in the fastest and straightest.

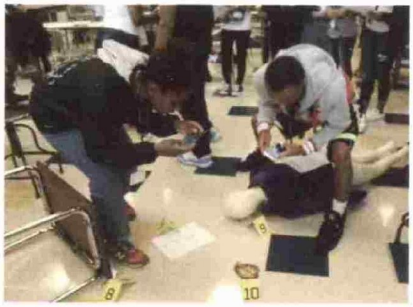
Drill team // In a race against the clock, Noah Pryor (11) and Deondre Todd (11) face off to see who is fastest and most accurate at drilling screws.

On the mark // Keeping focused, Brandon Platts (11), competes against Larell Dow (11) to see who can remove nails the fastest with a prybar.

Following the clues // Taking a closer look, Resource Officer Kevin Furman demonstrates how to investigate a potential crime scene as Mrs. Campbell's class watches closely. // Photos by P. Valdivia

the mystery of Anna Garcia

Up close // Working together, Sabrina Thormann (12), left, and SaNiah Isabell (11) investigate near a bloody footprint and other clues left behind.



Body language // Trying to figure out the cause of death, Deverieux Coleman (10) and Airron Blissett (12) examine a syringe and other items left near the "body."

In Principles of Biomedical Sciences, students investigated the cause of death of a fictional person. The students followed the intricate steps that real-life investigators would. "When there's a random body in a criminal investigation, it's hard work figuring out what happened to that person," Deverieux Coleman (10) said. Despite the hard work, the students enjoyed the hands-on project. "It was fun," Daniella Uvalle (11) said. "We were examining footprints and blood samples."

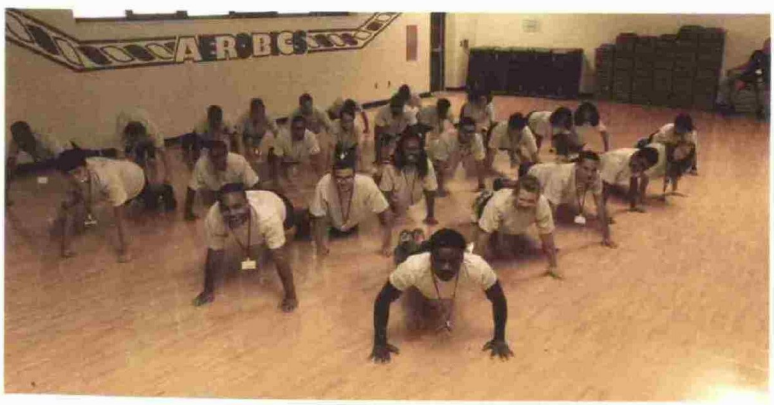


Photo by J. Smith

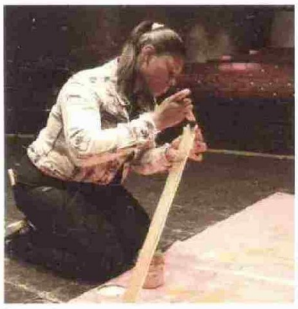
up and at 'em!

The cadets in the Air Force Jr. ROTC program are dedicated to fitness and service. The cadets are shown here in an early-morning workout. Cadets regularly came in before or after school to work on skills and fitness. The four-year JROTC program teaches leadership, confidence, self-discipline and the value of community service. "I signed up for the class because I want to join the Air Force after high school," Reginal Fairley (9). "My biggest challenge in the class is running a full mile without stopping."

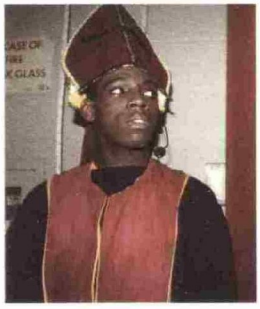
reacting to our acting

Kaylah Johnson (12), dramatically acts out her role as Joan of Arc, along with David White (11), in the fall play.

"Reacting to the Acting" is the motto for the students in Thespian Troupe 1692. Mr. Tom Mackey, sponsor of the troupe, encourages students to take part in the theater productions the troupe offers. "A thorough understanding of the production process and all the different types of jobs in the theater realm is a skill that I want students to take from this," Mr. Mackey said. The students who took part in the fall play Joan the Girl of Arc agreed. "Participating in theater helps me see things from different perspectives by acting out different roles and interpreting different personalities," Johnson said.



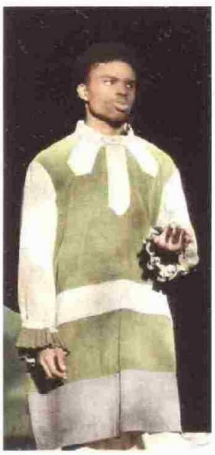
Working toward the wonder // While working on set pieces, Azjanae Cruz (12) puts heart and soul into her work for the fall play. "It's great to start out with a vision and see it come to life," Cruz said.

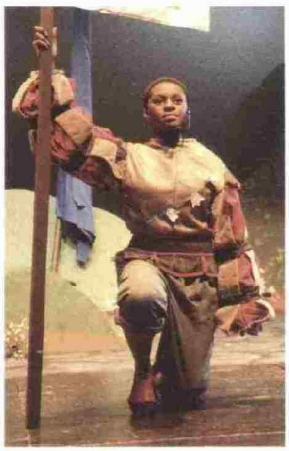


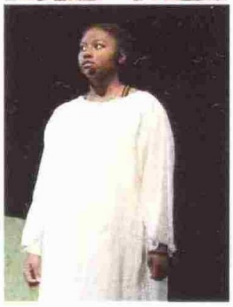
Second nature // As the Fall Play begins, Jordan Munchenburg (11) is ready to portray his role. "I've been acting since I was eleven," Munchenburg said. "It's natural for me to be prepared for my part."

It takes a village // While teaching Leah Mallon (9) how to create set pieces, Ferdinand Aton (12) exhibits his talents backstage. "Being more social and open comes naturally with theater," Aton said.

meet the cast



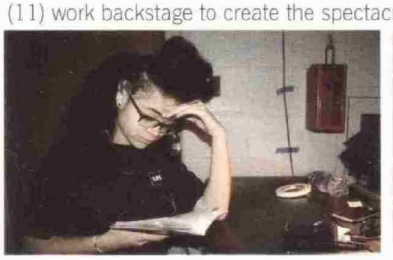


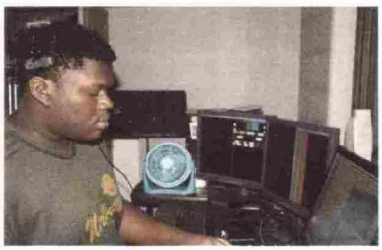


In the spotlight// From left to right, actors John Grace Jr. (12), Kaylah Johnson (12), Jordan Holmes (11), and Mia Godfrey (12) put on their finest French faces to fit the time period for "Joan the Girl of Arc."

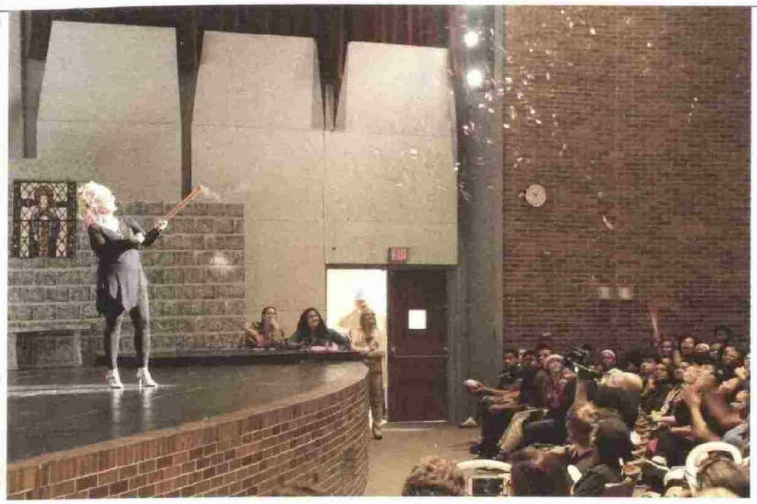
meet the crew

Behind the scenes// From top to bottom, crew members Tyler Patterson (10), Keith Barnard (12), Richard Grey (10), and Taijah Smith (11) and Benjamin Green (11) work backstage to create the spectacular scenery presented on stage.





Getting LOCO with *Leoma*



Putting the "pow" in power // Using confetti poppers to excite her audience, artist Leoma Lovegrove makes quite an entrance at the assembly.

The artist arrives// On October 20th, Merrillville's own graduate of 1971, Leoma Lovegrove, returns to experience the classic Pirate energy one more time. As a former cheerleader, choir member, and artist at Merrillville High, Lovegrove spoke to over 100 students from the art club, orchestra, choir, and other groups in hopes of sending a powerful message to her fellow artists. "Your life should be a work of art," Lovegrove said. "I believe you can become a masterpiece if you just keep at it." Lovegrove truly wishes that everyone seeks to "Make A Change" in the world and in themselves.

The world is art // Flaunting her creativity, Lovegrove uses a variety of materials, including paper plates as note cards and cotton balls as paint-brushes as she creates her work of art.

Together we sing// As "How Far I'll Go" from the movie Moana echoes throughout the Reinhart Auditorium, members of the choir join to sing and dance along to one of their Disney favorites.

Strutting her style // After the assembly, Iris Galvin (11) sports a balloon hat and Cortez Battle (11) carries a balloon sword given out by Leoma. "Seeing everyone singing, dancing, and laughing peacefully almost brought a tear to my eye," Battle said. "It was lit."

Tough cookies // Preparing a tasty treat, Isis Davis (11) and Damian Davila (11) decorate cookies to serve during the celebration for Leoma Lovegrove's special celebration. Culinary arts students decorated dozens of cookies for the event. // Photo by D. Williams

Food, fun, and friends // After the assembly, Maria Guardiola (10) snacks with peers Skye Skimehorn (10) and Jakobe Wilbon (12) in celebration of the event. "It was so much fun," Guardiola said. "The lights, the laughter was just so inspiring."

Peace, love, and wackiness// Designed by members of the art club and art classes, special hearts contain personal wishes for peace, love, unity, social equality and justice. The hearts were on display in the basketball concourse area, waiting to be bagged by Leoma Lovegrove's crew and taken to Yoko Ono's Imagine Peace Tower in Iceland.

Picture perfect // Embracing a chance to learn more about a favorite artist, Reem Suileman (11) admires a portrait of Frida Kahlo at Frida's Cafe.

día de los muertos

Students study Mexican traditions and artist Frida Kahlo

"I love how Frida portrays her past struggles in her paintings," Reem Sulieman said, showing great affection for the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. "It's almost as if she was telling her life story through her art."

"Frida's resilience inspires me," Sulieman added. "She bounced back from several emotional and physical injuries and grew from them."

Sulieman was one of more than 65 Merrillville students who went on a field trip to Frida's Café in Hammond to learn more about Mexican culture.

"Although I am not Hispanic, I have a great admiration for the Mexican community and its vibrancy," she said.

The Spanish Club members were invited to participate in a community cultural art display by creating an altar for the gallery's "Day of the Dead" exhibit.

The Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday that celebrates the lives of loved ones who have passed away.

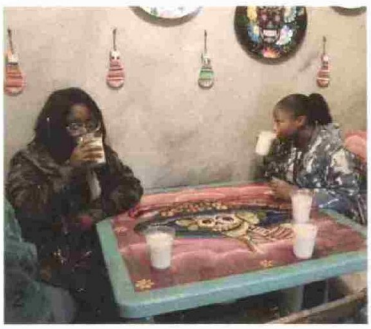
The owner of Frida's Café gave an educational speech about the different elements each altar needed to include to be authentic.

"We tried to give every student to get their hands in the making of Merrillville High School's display whether it be by carrying a box into the gallery, putting a shelf together or putting a sign in a picture frame. We gave everyone a task," sponsor Monica Da Costa Gomez said.

The students dedicated their altar to the victims of the hurricane in Puerto Rico.

"It was also a really active and cultural day because we had an authentic meal, and we were able to put on some music and dance in the restaurant," she said.

1. Creative thinking // Inspired by their surroundings, Elizabeth Cuazitl (12) and Raquel Reyes (12) admire the "Sandias" painting. Cuazitl was amazed by all of the artwork on display in Frida's Café. "It was my first time going to the Café, and I really loved all the beautiful paintings," Cuazitl said.



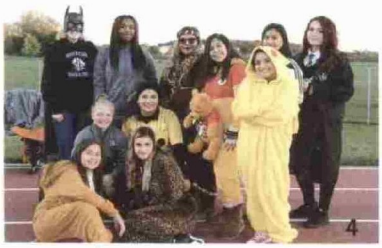
2. A taste of Mexico // Sipping a traditional Mexican beverage, horchata, Myjae Armstrong (11) and Tavia Campbell (11) listen to music while waiting for their waitress. Armstrong bought many Day of the Dead items to decorate her house. "My favorite memory was dancing with some of my classmates and teacher to 'Despacito' and 'La Bamba'," Armstrong said.

3. State of the art // With eyes focused, Said Jaime (11) and Amira Hamed (9) look at a replica of one of Frida Kahlo's paintings. Jaime was interested in learning about the way Mexican culture pays their respect to the dead. "I really enjoyed the owner explaining to us about her life and the altars that were in Frida's Café," Jaime said.

Behind the scenes...

Preparation // During the process of making the altar, Abigail Diaz (12) and Diana Del Real (12) help out with the decorations. Diaz enjoyed seeing everyone working together to create the altar. "I really liked it. We learned more about the Mexican culture," Diaz said.

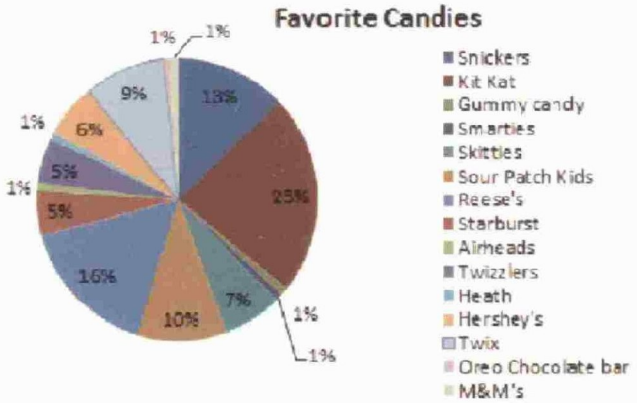
Track or treat



4. All dressed up // In the Halloween spirit, members of the girls' soccer team get together for a picture during the annual Track or Treat event. Athletes gathered to provide treats for area children and raise money for the Special Olympics of Indiana. "I really enjoyed how we had a little treat for the kids," Natalie Ordonez (10) said.

5. A real treat // With treats fit for a princess, Edmund Gunn (12) enjoys seeing the children in costume. Gunn was happy to help out by giving out candy. "I love how the proceeds go to the Special Olympics for a good purpose," he said.

6. Smiles matter // Enjoying the moment, Jodi Corrales (10) and Azariah Avery (10) hand out candy. Corrales felt honored to put smiles on the kids' faces by giving them candy. "A smile and a couple pieces of candy can go a long way," Corrales said.



Air time // Listening carefully, Brooklyn Ford (11) and Stephanie Herrera (12) are among the cadets enjoying the opportunity to interact with the crew aboard the Air Force refueling plane. // Photo by J. Smith

ready for *takeoff*

Members of the Air Force Jr. ROTC went on the trip of a lifetime to Grissom Air Reserve Base to witness an air refueling mission in Kansas City so they could see what an air reserve base does. It was a unique experience for the ROTC cadets who attended. "I wanted to fly in a military-style aircraft, and I haven't flown in a long time," Joshua Milla (11) said. Students had to overcome some nerves, but overall it was a memory they will never forget. "I was nervous when flying in the plane, but I have a strong love for the military," Brooklyn Ford (12) said. "The trip enhanced my passion for the military. It was an enthralling experience."

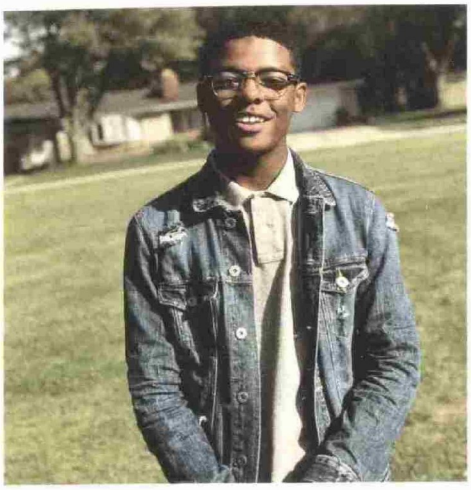
1

2

1. Ready for flight // After arriving at the Grissom Air Reserve Base, the cadets board a KC-135. "I wanted to take them on the trip so they could see and learn what an air refueling looks like," Col. Michael Sax said. // Photo by J. Smith

2. The sky's the limit //During the flight, the cadets had an opportunity to watch a B-52 bomber get refueled midair. // Photo courtesy SMSgt. D. Wrasman

trends trends trends



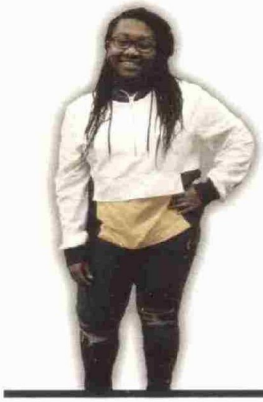
d.i.y./ripped jeans

Wesley Davis (11) has been ripping his own jeans for about three months now. "Someone inspired me to rip my jeans and when I started doing it, I started liking the different ways I ripped them and I thought it was more of my style," Davis said. He rips his jeans using 3 easy tools; a random book, a pair of scissors, and the jeans themselves. He puts the book inside the pants leg making it easy to cut the jeans the way he wants.

"I started wearing ripped jeans because I got tired of plain jeans. They got boring to me," Jalen Jones (11) said.

"I wear ripped jeans because of the style and how fashionable they are," Diavian Anderson (11) said.

"I started wearing ripped jeans because I like the fashion type of them," Charlese' Hill (11) said.



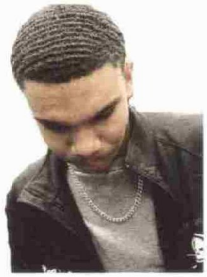
"They're a comfortable, cute, airy fashion trend," Brittney Greer (11) said.

hairstyles

Darius Jordan (11)

Zaria Rock (12)

Keelan Outlar (12)



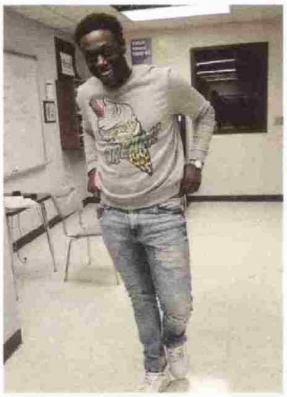
Jacob Dockins (11)

Rubin Smith (12)

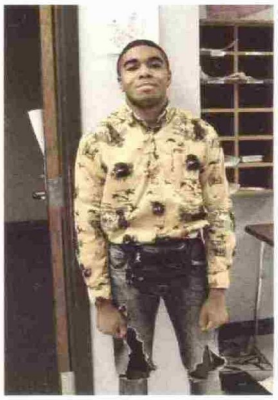
Dana Cheairs (12)

describe **your style** in one word!

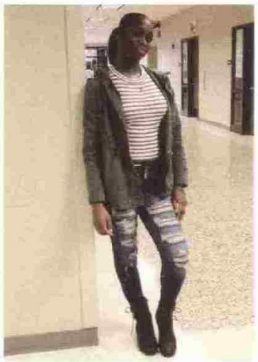
Photos by Tacoya Johnson



"Affluent," Maliq Cherry (12) said.



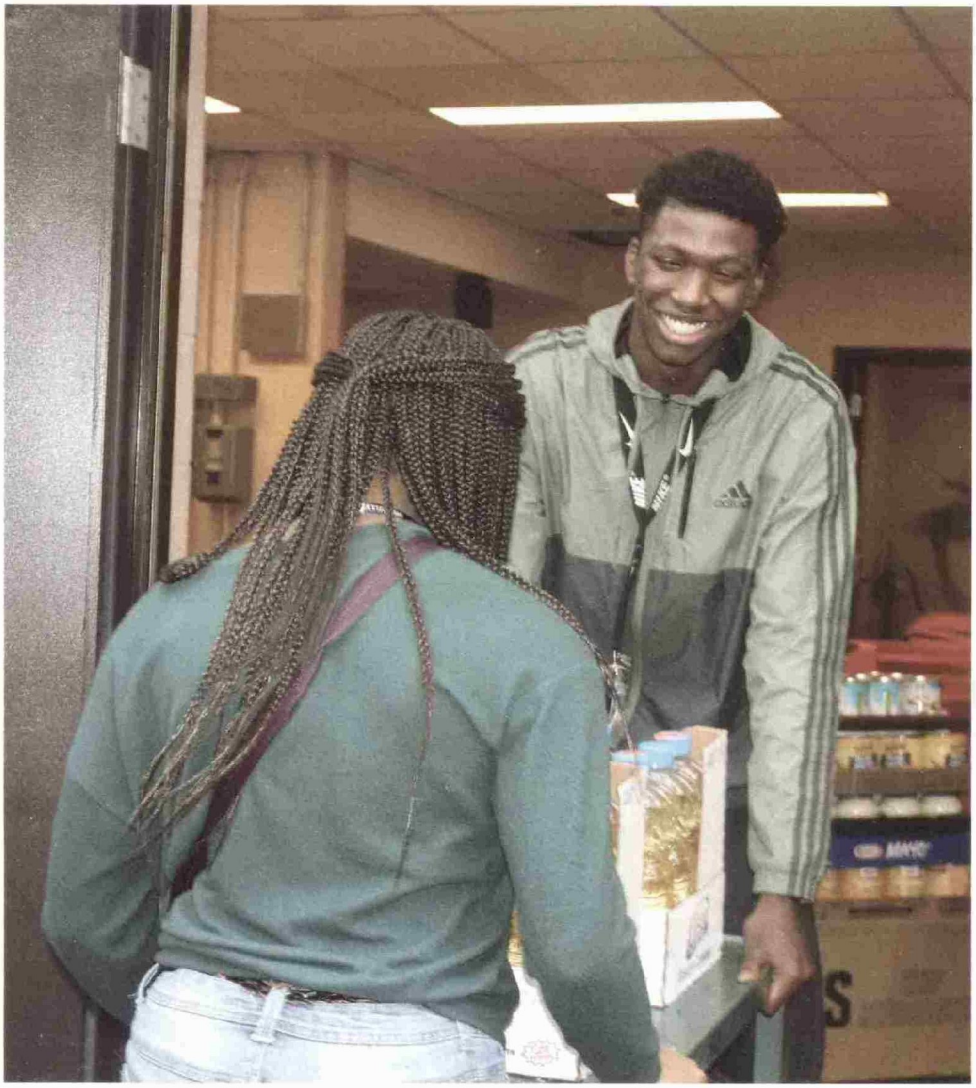
"Unique," Ah'zsur Ursery (12) said.



"Real cute," Michon Cherry (11) said.

thankful to give back

Every Thanksgiving, members of the Student Government organize a food drive to collect packaged foods for families in need. First period classes collected food items from students, and this year, more than 1,000 items were donated, helping about 50 families. "The Thanksgiving Food Drive is very important because we get to help the people who don't have. You are a part of something greater as a whole," Joenathan Smith (11), president of Student Government, said.



Working together // Before the Thanksgiving holiday, Joenathan Smith, president of Student Government, helps load items for the local food pantry to donate to needy families.

1. **Doing her part** // As class president, Carrington Morse (12) carries a box filled with items into the basement of the church.

2. **Stacking** // Being helpful, Warat Kulkijkamjorn (12), a foreign exchange student from Thailand, pushes a cart full of food cans.

3. **Cans for days** // While organizing, Camille Fuller (12) focuses on putting the cans in order.

4. **Helping hand** // Inspired to help, Molly Murphy (12), co-editor of the yearbook, picks up a box for the Thanksgiving food drive.

What are you thankful for ?

"I'm thankful for having a job."

Jered Smith (11)

"I'm thankful for the people I am surrounded by."

Ronald Woods (12)

"I'm thankful for my grandfather."

Alyssia Williams (12)

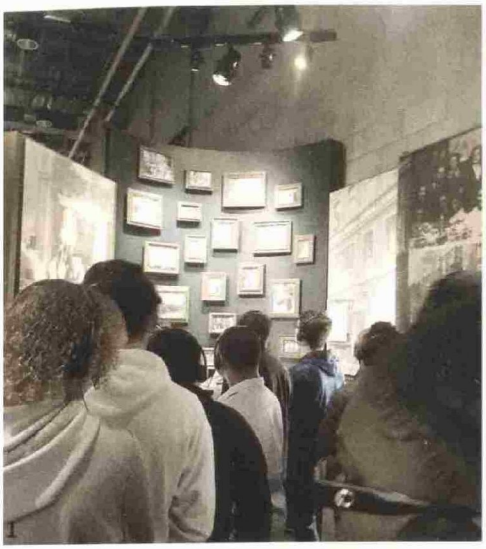
"I'm thankful for my mother."

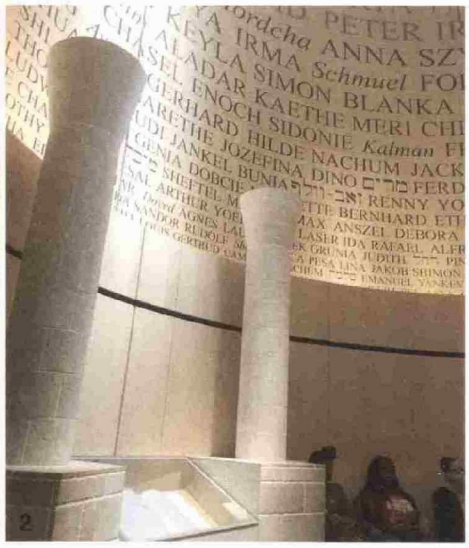
Aaliyah King (12)

"I'm thankful for my first nephew."

Trevon Brown (12)

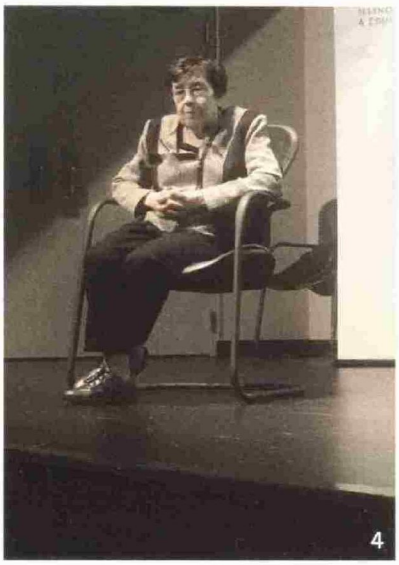
learning from the past





1. Images of devastation // Studying the images, students from Mrs. Bedwell's 12th grade English class examine historical photos at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie, Ill. The field trip was part of a unit that included reading Elie Weisel's memoir Night, which detailed his time in a concentration camp.

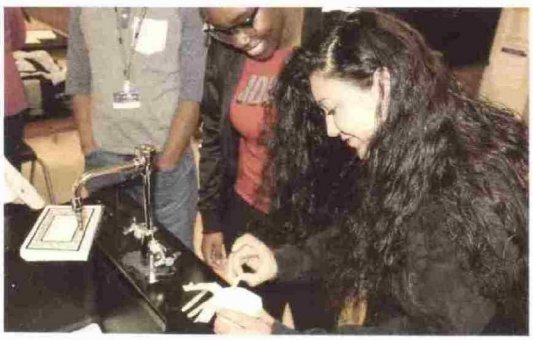
2. Never forget // Taking a break, Tanazah Miller (12) and Jamie Scott (12) sit quietly in the Room of Remembrance. The room was created as a special place to honor the 6 million Jews and millions of others murdered during the Holocaust. Names of the victims line the walls so people will never forget the horrors of the Holocaust.



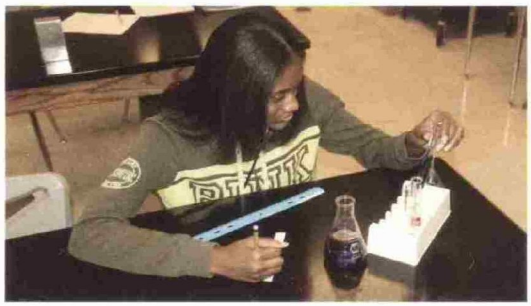
3. Pausing for reflection // Taking a break from the tour, English students and staff gather during their time at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center. The message for the day was "don't be a bystander."

4. Inspiration // Sharing her story, a survivor of the Holocaust speaks to Mrs. Bedwell's students about her experiences. "I enjoyed her story. It just was so amazing listening to her," Te'Reyah Gaines said (12).

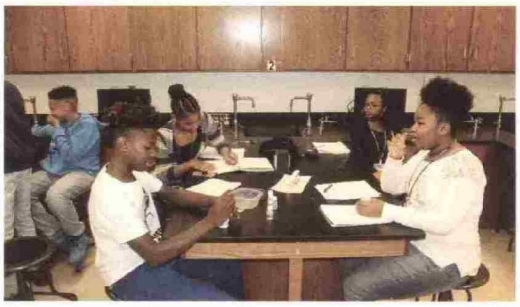
academic achievements



Focused on the prize // Delilah Barajas (10) completes her container for the egg drop in Mr. Heckler's class.



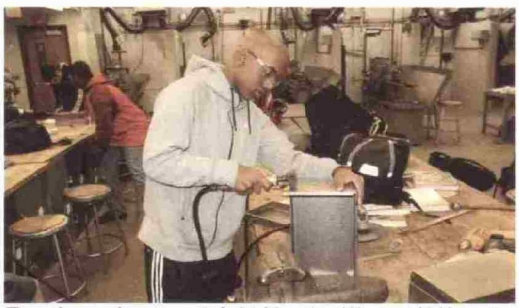
Steady hand // Ashley Williams (9) drops purple solution into the testing tube.



Reactions // A'Veyawn Madry and Laila Barnes (9) observing the chemical reactions with Koolaid and antiseptics in Mr. Hinkel's class.

Applying pressure // Itez Mayo (10) concentrates on printing a shirt during class.

Eagle eye // Jaime Alvarez (12) weeds a graphic design in Mr. Kenny Smith's class.



Tough as sheet metal // Maurice Weaver (11) works on his metals project in Mr. Garner's class.

1

1. Pushing forward // Showing why he is the top receiver in the school, Markus Fielder (12) pushes to get extra yardage. He did his best to get the attention of college scouts. "I came from a small school and transferred because I wanted more people to see what I can do," Fielder said. Fielder led the Pirates with 429 total receiving yards and 42.9 yards a game. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

fighting for every **inch**

Football team faces season filled with injuries, adversity

Injuries are a big part of any sport, but that's especially true with football. This year's Pirates were no exception. After Junior Justen Ramsey tore his MCL, the Pirates faced the loss of a key defensive player, and Ramsey had to work hard to rehab for next year. "The injury was more mental than physical," Ramsey said. "I was broken by it, but physically I just had to continue to work through it."

This injury was just another setback for the Pirates who had been dealing with injuries all season long. "All season there was always something that was holding us back," Cameron Wright (11) said. "This was just one of the hard parts of the season."

Despite the setbacks, the Pirates' bond remained strong. "We supported each other through injuries," Wright said. "And through everything, we have each other's backs."

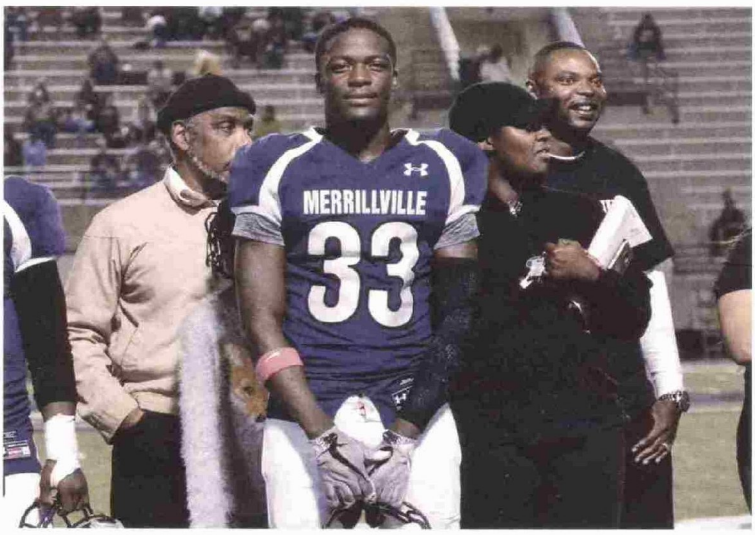
2

2. Pirate pride // Sharing a moment in the spotlight, Captains Dontrell Pope (12), KeShawn Lilly (12), Justen Ramsey (11) and Michael Shell (12) take a picture with a young Pirate fan. // Photo by I. Butts

3. Fierce focus // While dragging along a defender, Tyler Henderson (12) focuses on making a reception. "When I play, I get locked in and I don't let anything get to me," he said. "I always try to keep going no matter what." // Photo by T. DiGrispino

4. Ready to run // In a game against his fiercest rival, Robert Williams (12) pulls in one of his three receptions for the night. "I most wanted to beat Crown Point," Williams said. The Pirates did just that, winning 34-26. Williams totaled 37 receiving yards. // Photo by A. Robinson

senior night stars



Enjoying the spotlight, Tyjonn Lockett (12) soaks in the atmosphere of Senior Night. "That night was a special night," Lockett said. "It was great to have my family out there." // Photo by Z. Nickson

Reflecting on his football career, Keylian Brown (12) looks at the crowd. "Senior Night just made me think about all the time and years I put into this game," Brown said. "And that night made it worth it." // Photo by Z. Nickson

stat sheet stuffers

Justin Rhodes (12) flexes on the sidelines.
775 total yards
77.5 yards per game
10 rushing touchdowns

// Photo by A. Robinson

Cameron Wright (11) fights forward and drags along an Andrean defender.
1,050 total passing yards
105 passing yards per game
5 touchdowns
// Photo by T. DiGrispino

Dennis Weston (12) helps take down an Andrean rusher.
46 total tackles
88% tackle percentage
1 forced fumble
// Photo by I. Butts

1

you just got **served**

Lady Pirates push through a tough season with good spirits

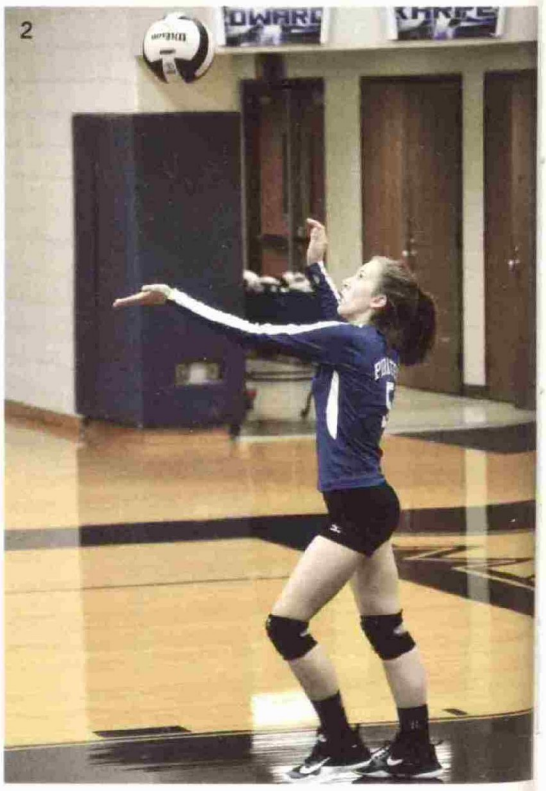
When it comes to sports, winning shouldn't always be the main goal. Despite winning only two games, the Lady Pirates kept a positive mentality on the court.

"Obviously, we don't have the best record, but we always look for what we did right and what we need to improve," Hailey Karpen (11) said.

The players' improvement had a lot to do with motivation, whether it be self-motivation, or motivation from others. Throughout the season, the new coaches, Danielle Lewis and Amanda Banashak, played a big role in the players' growth and positive mindset.

"Our practices were more one-on-one instead of 'you do this, you do that' and that helped us learn more," Alexis Ramos (12) said.

Acquiring new skills helps heighten the chances of victories for the next season. Win or lose, high school volleyball is about having fun and learning new things.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1. Team bonding // Taking advantage of the 30-second timeout, the Lady Pirates compose each other with a brief motivational team talk before taking the court again. // Photos by T. DiGrispino

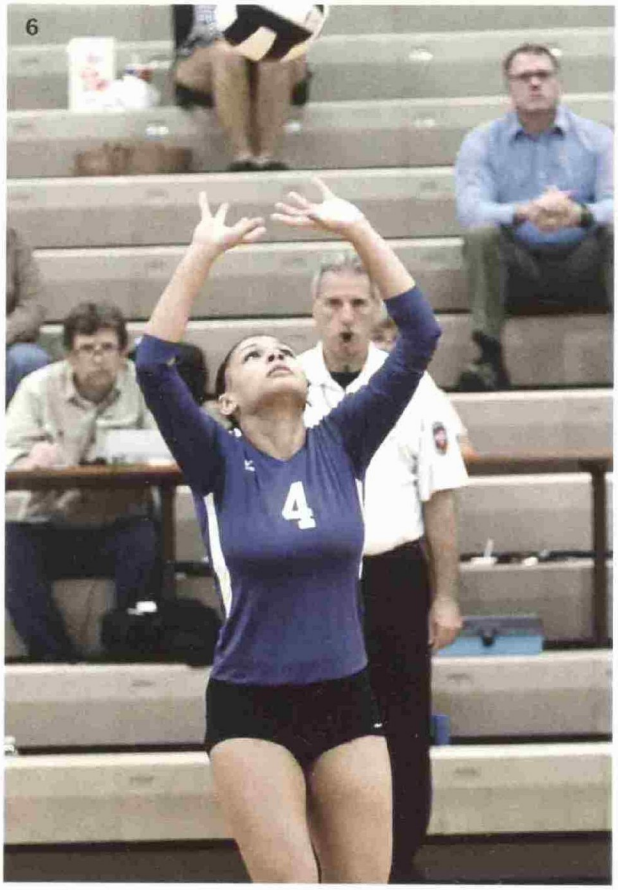
2. Serve it up // As she serves the ball, Madeline Langer (9), experiences a clash of emotions. "When I'm on the court, I feel a sense of nervousness, but also excitement," Langer said.

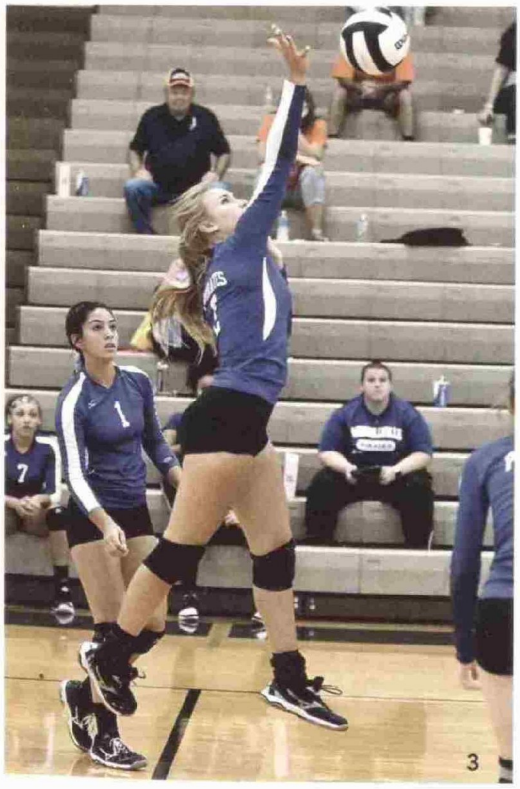
3. Hustle, hit and never quit // Going in for the point, Hailey Karpen (11) hits the ball. "Being on the court is exhilarating and hypes me up to make moves and communicate with my team," Karpen said.

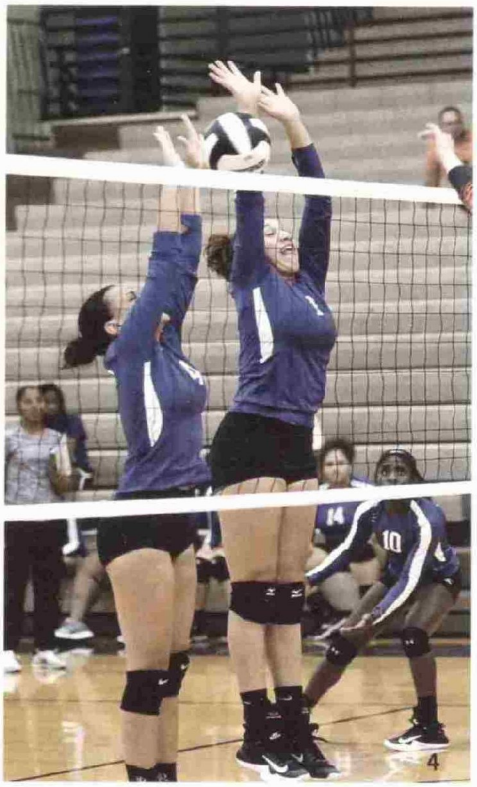
4. Meet me at the net // Working together, Mikayla Brookshire (10) and Shelby Harmon (12) block the ball from crossing over the net and ensure a lively, challenging game.

5. Just keep digging // While being one of the only freshmen on the varsity team, Raven Edwards ignores the pressure she feels while digging for a spike. "Once you get on the court, it doesn't matter what grade you're in, the coach just wants you to play your hardest," Edwards said.

6. I set that // With victory so close, Mikayla Brookshire (10) sets the ball. She relies on tips from family when she plays. "My mom and my aunt have always been a big influence in the way I play on the court," Brookshire said.







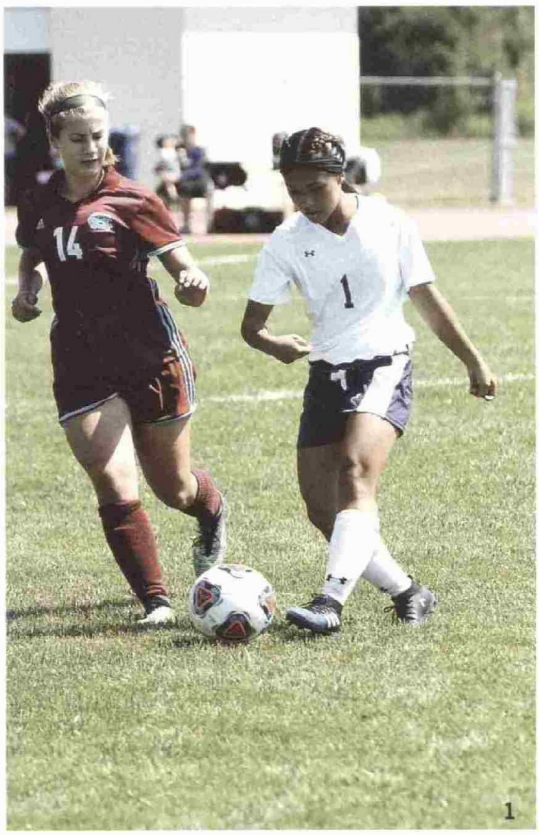
Locker Room **Shenanigans**

As a stress reliever, The Lady Pirates crack jokes to let out a laugh before a game. "Joking around brings us more together as a team and calms our nerves," Lesich said.

Before and after games, The Lady Pirates' locker room is the equivalent of a dance party. "We always dance and listen to our favorite songs to get us hyped up," Ramos said.

One **dream**, one **team**

On Senior Night, Maritza Frazier, Kennedy Tanniehill, Jhonae Garmon, Meagan Wise, Bea Tamo, Viviana Lagunas, Angela Pejovski, Sarah Juarez, Asia Gray, Sydney Kenner and Reannah Soto throw balloons to commemorate their final season together

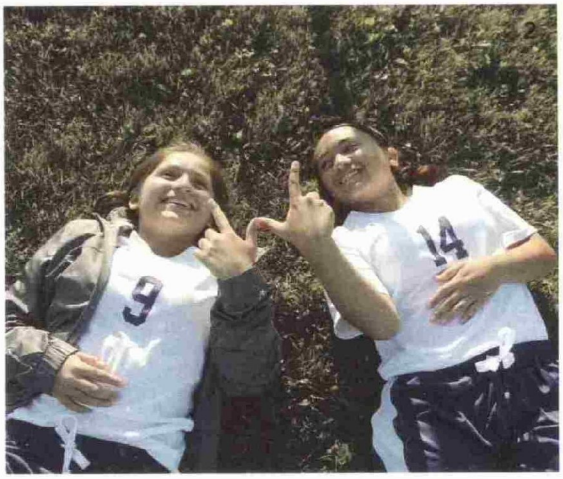


1. Toe to toe// In an intense game, midfielder Bea Tamo (12) tries to gain control of the ball. Tamo focused on the different ways she could be helpful to her teammates. "I wouldn't trade my teammates for the score any day," Tamo said. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

Sarah Juarez (12)
"We all learned so much more about each other, and my skills improved a lot."

Meagan Wise (12)
"It was my toughest season, but also the season I learned the most."

Maritza Frazier (12)
"It was tough, but my teammates and my passion for the game kept me going."



2. Winning thoughts // During a spare moment, Emily Garcia (10) and Maria Guardiola (10) are thinking about how much they want to win. Garcia enjoyed her first season on varsity."I grew to love them so much, and they taught me so much," Garcia said. // Photo by P. Valdivia

3. Best in the field // Caught in the spirit of senior night, Jhonae Garmon (12) walks with her mother to celebrate the memorable event. "Even though Senior Night was a downfall, it was really great for us to come out there to celebrate the special event," Garmon said. // Photo by A. Keehn

4. Team work, dream team // With joy, Reannah Soto (12) gives Meagan Wise (12) a hug. Soto enjoyed leading the younger teammates in the right direction as their captain. "I'm sad that this year we didn't win any games," Soto said, "but I enjoyed playing with everyone for one last time." // Photo by T. DiGrispino

5. Here's the kicker // With great force, Viviana Lagunas (12) concentrates to put the ball into play for her team. She has been playing soccer for almost all of her childhood. "This year team bonding went very well compared with other years," Lagunas said. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

6. Eye on the ball//While retrieving the ball, Myjae Armstrong (11) feels confident that she has it under control. Armstrong had a total of 338 saves this season, and averaged 21. "There's always room for improvements and to get focused correctly," Armstrong said. "When I do, I'll be a better goalie." // Photo by T. DiGrispino

sisterhood of soccer

Friendships help team deal with losses

Although the season was tough, the girls' soccer team stuck together and created an unbreakable bond. Even during the offseason, the girls kept in touch.

"We didn't end the season the way we wanted, but we didn't lay low no matter how bad we were losing," Myjae Armstrong (11) said.

They players created group chats, hung out, and prepared together before games. The coach was involved too, inviting the team over to his house for a team dinner.

"The soccer team was really fun, and the team was friendly," said Emilie Leifelt (12), an exchange student who joined the team this year.

The girls' bond helped raise their passion for the game. "Being on the team isn't about just winning; it's about getting better and supporting each other," Imani Butts (11) said.

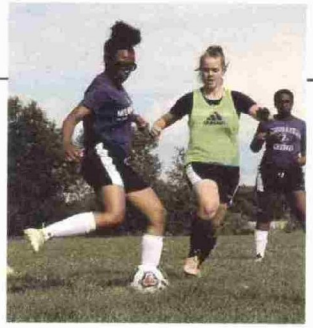
The numbers behind soccer

Source: Sydney Kenner (12)

12 bottles consumed a week

#

18 varsity players



10 hours of practice a week

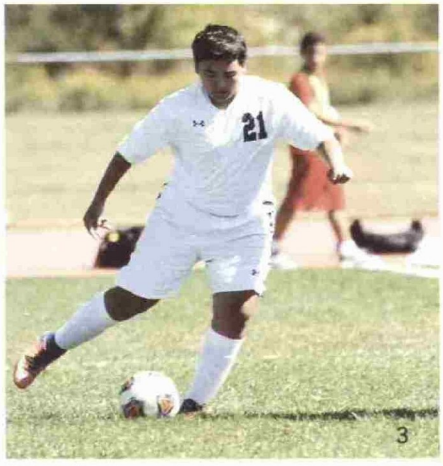
6 recovered injuries

1. In control // While avoiding his opponents, Jacob Maldonado (10) shows exceptional ball skills as he prepares to send the ball down the field. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

2. Holding his ground // Battling for the ball, Victor Hernandez (10) displays a fierce determination. Hernandez played an important role in his first year after moving from Honduras. Not speaking English was a challenge, but Hernandez still did his part to keep the team moving forward. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

just keep **kicking**

Love for the game keeps boys motivated despite losses



3. On the move // Keeping control of the ball, Jose Fragoso (12) focuses on finding his teammates. "I thought about how can I help my team and what can I do better for myself," he said. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

Although the team had a rough season, the boys stayed motivated until the end, putting in a strong effort in sectionals against a tough Valparaiso team.

"To stay motivated, I would think about it being my senior year, and that I want to play soccer in college," goalkeeper Alex Navarro (12) said.

Navarro tried to learn from the losses. "Almost every single game, I improved, and every single game for me was practice just for sectionals," he said.

The players took pride in their accomplishments.

"I feel like I did well my senior year," Daniel Barajas said. "I had three saves as a defender at the Hoosier Cup.

Barajas always tried to give his best.

"Playing defense motivated me to go up against the opponent's best players," he said.

Senior Juan Carillo's favorite moment was the goal he scored against Hobart that helped the team win.

"I was just in disbelief. It all happened so fast," he said.

4. Senior moment // At the head of the line, Daniel Barajas (12) waits to be announced on Senior Night. "That night was hard because it was going to be my last home game, and it was kind of emotional," he said. // Photo by P. Valdivia

Photo by P. Valdivia

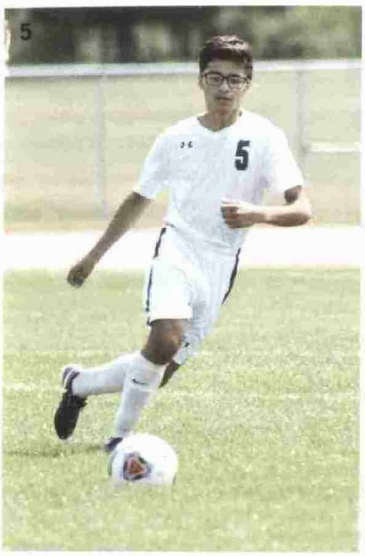
by the *numbers*

The boys had the choice of a number to represent themselves and reflect their favorite player or their special bond to the number they chose.

#23 "I chose the number because my favorite player was Michael Jordan and it was also the only double-digit number left. Michael also has a big impact on my life."
– Christian Licea (12)

"The number I wanted originally was 11, but I ended up with 16. Which was one of the numbers of my favorite players, Sergio 'Kun' Aguero."
– Axel Martinez (11) **#16**

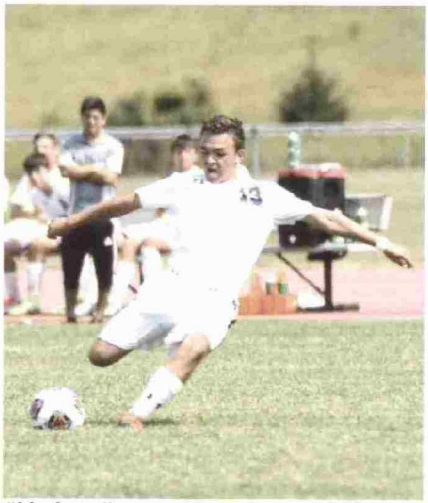
#7 "I chose the number seven because my favorite soccer player, David Beckham, wore the number seven, so the number just stuck with me throughout the years."
– Yoshi Nangin (11)



5. Team player // Focused on the ball, midfielder Marcos Hernandez (12) keeps it moving. Hernandez did his best to keep the team uplifted. "The best way to start a game is to get in a circle and hype up my teammates," Hernandez said.
6. Goal-oriented // Protecting the ball, Juan Carillo (10) keeps his opponent at bay. Carillo always tried to put the team first. // Photos by T. DiGrispino

senior memories

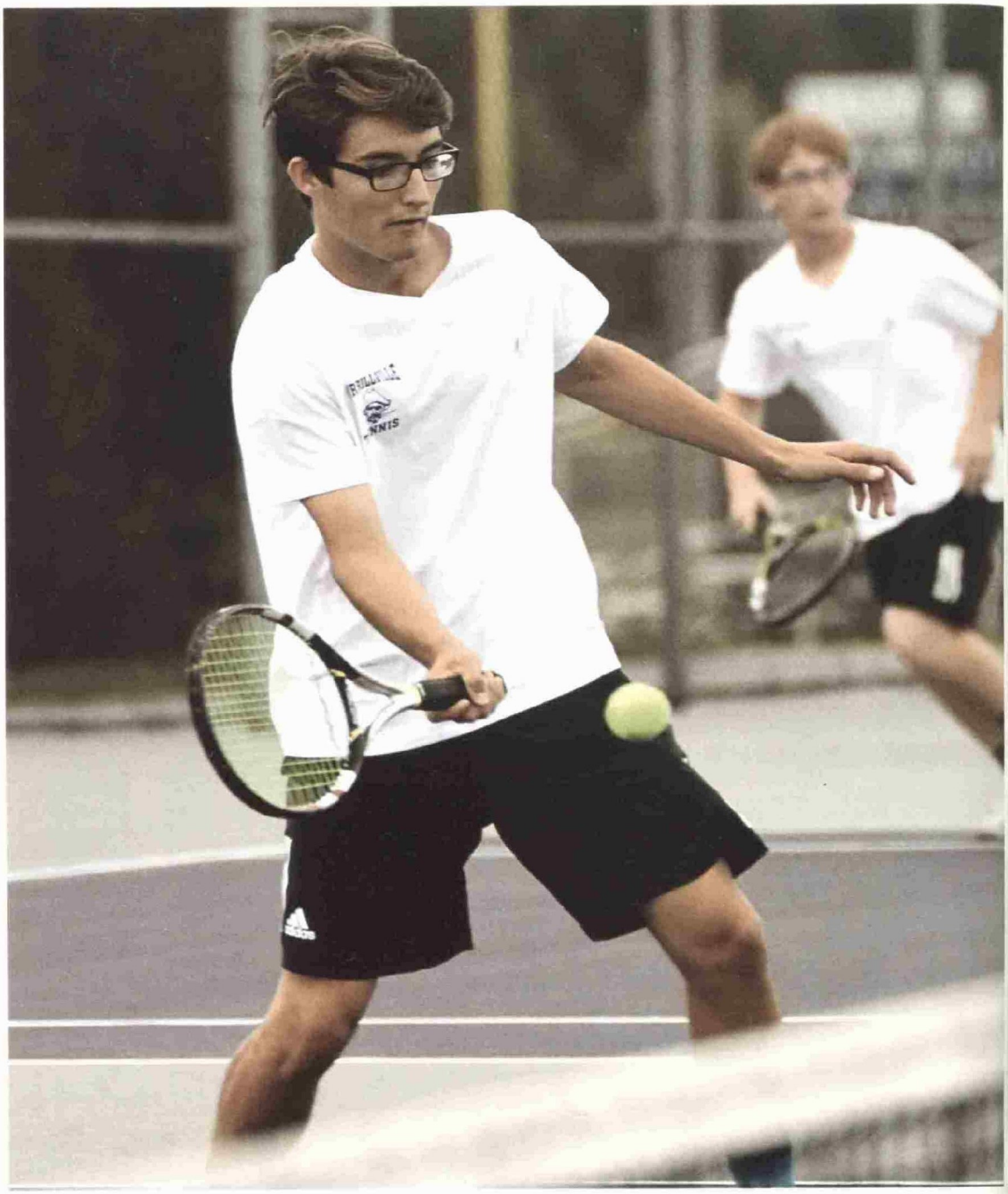
"My favorite season memory is the bus rides from the away games; we're just all relaxed, making jokes and having a good time." – Dylan Burns (12)



"My favorite season memory was the away game bus rides where we would lay on our back and put our legs up on the window and start making fun of each other." – Jorge Gaona (12)

"I had a one-on-one with another player while in goal. He got past the defense. I came out and stopped him from scoring. (The score) stayed 2-2; the crowd was screaming and cheering. It is definitely a save I will never forget." – Alex Navarro (12).

Photos by T. DiGrispino



Senior success story // Keeping a careful eye on the ball, Keith Rochefort Jr. (12) returns a shot at practice. Rochefort went undefeated for much of the season and was quick to compliment his new coach, Lonnie Wooden. "I've been a lot more consistent hitting the ball back. He taught me more about the game and how to stroke better," Rochefort said. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

making a **racket**

Boys enjoy success en route to sectional title

A new coach brought a winning attitude to the boys' tennis team, which improved to an 11-6 overall record after going 4-10 the year before. The boys also recaptured the sectional championship. "It feels nice to win," Junior Justin Jackson said. "We came in 5th place in conference, better than last year."

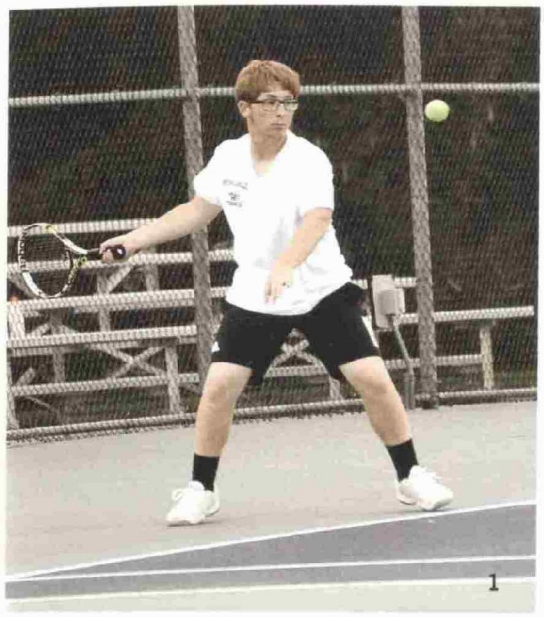
Part of the difference was new coach, Lonnie Wooden, a 25-year veteran who runs his own tennis academy. Wooden called it a "very rewarding season." "Our original goal was to make it past sectionals, and we met our goal, so I'm satisfied," he said.

After losing the title last year, the boys captured the sectional championship with a 5-0 win over the Hammond Academy of Science and Technology in the semifinal round and a 5-0 victory over Hobart in the finals. "We were mentally better and able to hit the ball better," Jackson said.

1. Stroke of luck // With his eye on the ball, Cameron Louthan (11) hits his most popular swing, the forehand. He said he likes to use a drop shot so it barely goes over the net and causes the opponent to miss it. // Photo by T. DiGrispino.

2. Give it a shot // Taking advice from his eighth grade wrestling coach, Braden Worthington (11) started playing tennis. A typical practice for Worthington includes "lots of line touches" and individual drills. "I need to improve on my serving, but I'm really good at slamming, and I hit people a lot," Worthington said. // Photo by T. DiGrispino.

3. Back in business // Using his backhand, Ivan Shagun (11) returns a shot. Shagun played at No. 2 doubles with Josh Raddatz. // Photo by T. DiGrispino.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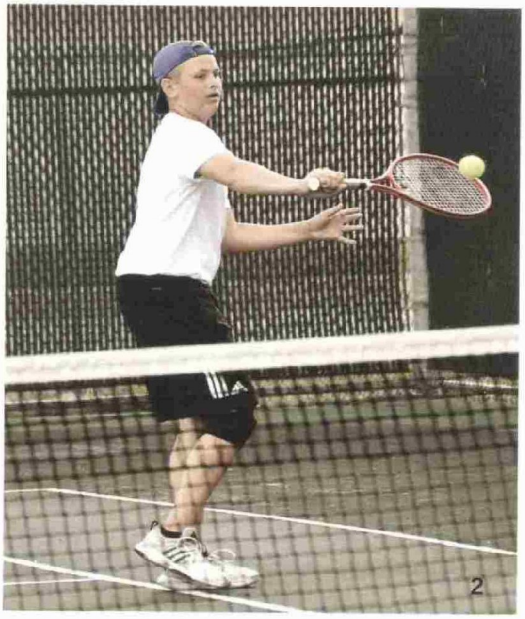
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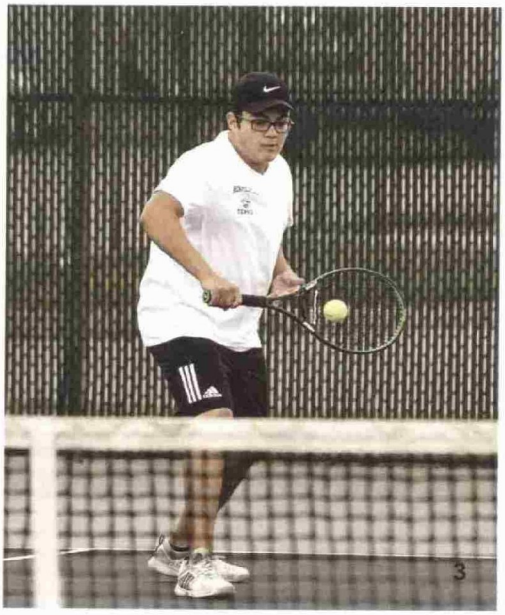
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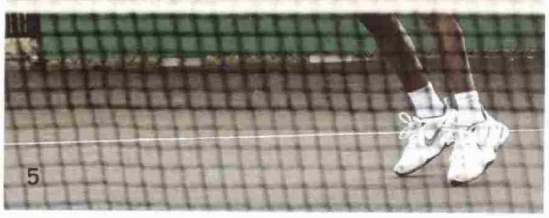
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4. Family matters //As the ball approaches, Justin Jackson (11) prepares to return it with a forehand shot. With his dad, brother and sister being players, tennis is in Jackson's blood. "My younger sister is my biggest fan. She comes to all my games, and I hear her from the stands the most," Jackson said. // Photo by T. DiGrispino.

5. Oh, brother! // Stretching out, D'Angelo Brown (12) returns his opponent's shot. Brown followed his older brother's footsteps when he started playing tennis. He used to watch his brother and thought it would be fun for him, too. "I like everything about tennis, but I hate losing," Brown said. // Photo by T. DiGrispino.

6

6. Team meeting // Working together, the boys motivate each other before a match. The team showed great improvement throughout the season, going undefeated in sectionals to advance to the regional competition where it put up a good fight against eventual champion Munster. // Photo by M. Murphy

going the extra **mile**

First runner makes it to state since 1999

Senior Brendea McNeal first joined cross country as a freshman to get better for track. Thankfully, she stayed with cross country for the next three years.

McNeal became the first cross country runner from Merrillville High School to make it to state since 1999, placing 135th. "I didn't run a super fast time, but the overall experience of going to state made it memorable," McNeal said.

Her coach was one of many cheering from the sidelines. "Brendea is gifted and talented. For the first three years of high school, we would tell her she needed to push herself and get out of her comfort zone, and she really pushed it," Coach Patrick Coffey said.

3. Together in prayer // Before the race begins, the girls find their focus with a series of pre-meet traditions. "We start by warming up and stretching; then we pray; and then we do a chant before we start," Diamond Taher (12) said. // Photo by P Valdivia

1. Strength in numbers // At left, showing unity, the cross country runners join hands before their meet. The ritual helped the team get motivated. "We were showing solidarity as a team and telling each other to do our best, and that no matter what, we're going to finish as a team," Sadia Hildebrand (10) said. // Photo by P. Valdivia

2. No sweat // With her eyes on the finish line, Diamond Taher (12) leaves runners from opposing schools in the dust. "I have a lot of favorite memories, but my favorite memory of cross country is running at Semi-state with Brendea and Natalie," Taher said. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

favorite memories

"My favorite memory of cross country is the practices because we always have a good workout, and we make sure we have a good time."

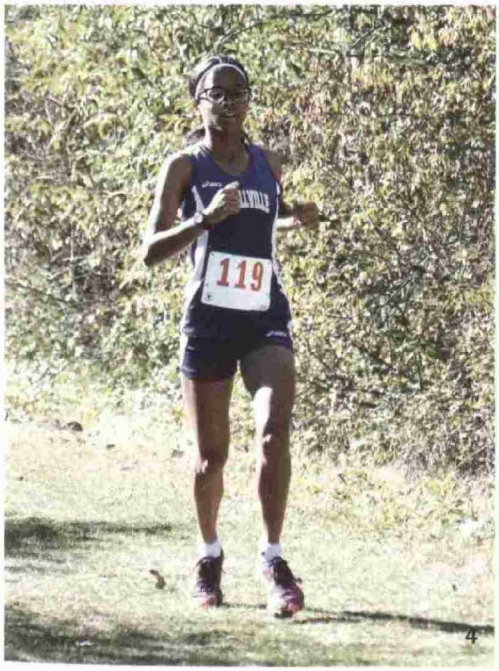
Akilah Ware, 12

"My favorite memory was in my sophomore year when we were at TF South and we had just gotten our medals. We were trying to take a picture, and we couldn't stop laughing."

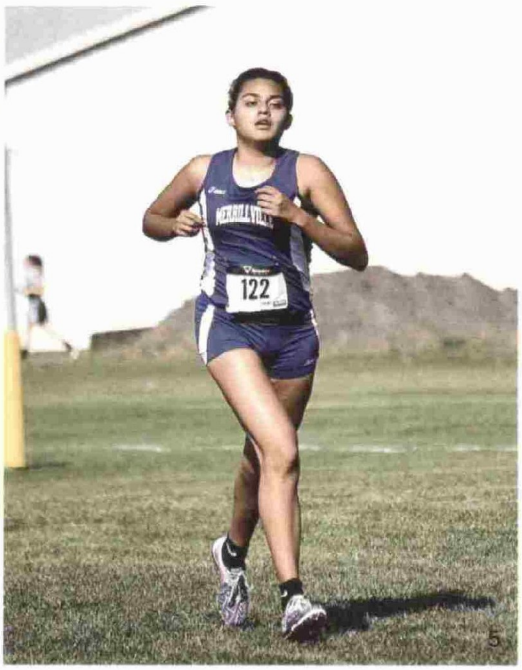
Marisol Ramirez, 12

"My favorite memory was when we went as a team to Coach Coffey's house and swam in the lake."

Prysma Valdivia, 12



4. Inspiration // Moving to the front of the pack, Brendea McNeal (12) stays focused on finishing strong. She found inspiration from her coach. "The coach always inspires me; he always pushes me to do my best; and he sees more in me than I see in myself," McNeal said.// Photo by T. DiGrispino



5. On the move // Finishing strong, Prysma Valdivia (12) benefits from staying in shape. "I would do my stretches, form drills and push myself to try my hardest and motivate myself to do my best," Valdivia said // Photo by T. DiGrispino

6. Motivation // Sharing words of encouragement, Sadia Hildebrand (10) runs next to Natalie Martinez (9). "Me and Natalie tend to finish close to each other. I knew she needed to keep going, so I was encouraging her to keep up with me," Hildebrand said. //Photo by T. DiGrispino

1

leading the **pack**

Senior runner passes the torch to newcomer

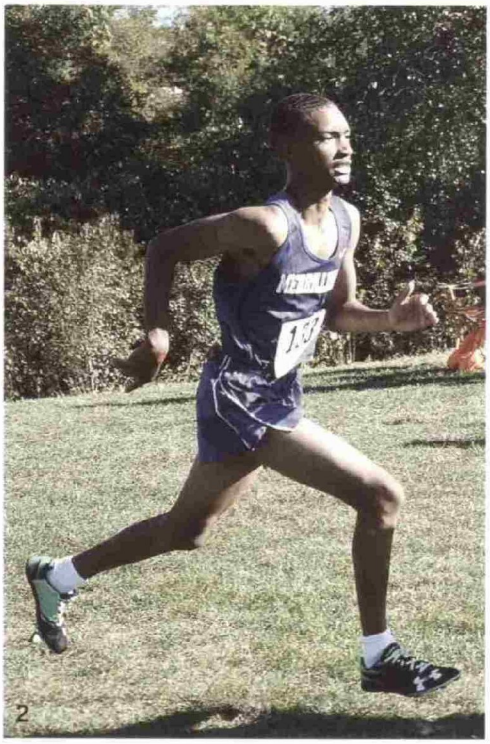
After being declared the most competitive on his team by his teammates and coach, Jeremie Lander (9) made his mark in a sport he only took up to prepare for another.

"This is my first time doing cross country. I was convinced to do it to help prepare myself for the upcoming season of track," Lander said.

One of many reasons Lander improved as a runner was help from Justin Bhe (12). "He's someone I look to for support and encouragement," Lander said. "From the start of the season to the end, I've gotten better, and he was one reason why."

Bhe enjoyed the competition. "Jeremie was great motivation throughout the season. I was always competing against him," he said.

Fittingly, Bhe and Lander concluded their season together at the semi-state race with Bhe finishing in a time of 18:10 and Lander with a time of 17:35.



2

1. Starting off strong // Matt Dziewicki (9), Gabriel Ochoa (11) and Justin Bhe (12) get off to a fast start. All three runners had stellar seasons. Dziewicki and Ochoa finished their season at regionals with times of 18:38 and 19:03, while Bhe advanced to semi-state. // Photo by T. DiGrispino.

2. Success through hardwork // Hitting his stride, Jeremie Lander (9) maintains a steady pace. Lander advanced to semi-state in his first year and was the team's top finisher. // Photo by T. DiGrispino.

3. Strive for greatness
With the finish line in sight, Nathan Dye (12) pushes past his limits to be the best. "The hardest part about cross country is the mental aspect for me of getting my mind straight and not focusing too much on my position. That's why I try not thinking about the halfway point when I reach it," Dye said. Dye finished the regional competition with a time of 19:07. // Photo by P. Valdivia.

4. Putting it all together
Finishing strong, Devin Pope (11) realizes this is what all his training is for. "Workouts are the hardest part about cross country. We have them twice a week and they are always challenging," he said. Pope finished the season with a time of 20:35 at regionals.
// Photo by P. Valdivia.

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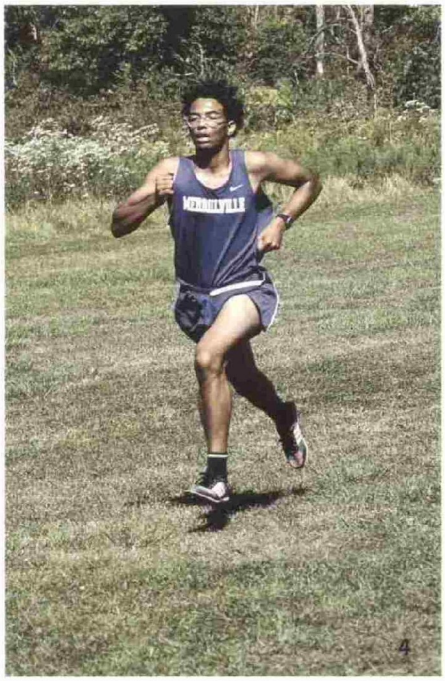
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5. Endless memories
Driven by determination, Hayden Harmon (12) recounts how the team connected during the season. "We had bonfires that brought us closer together," Harmon said. "It was also some smaller things, like just messing around before and after our races." Harmon concluded the season with a time of 18:17 at regionals. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

loosening up

6. Side by side
Before a run, Hayden Harmon (12), Nathan Dye (12) and Jeremie Lander (9) perform a series of exercises to be prepared. "Getting ready for a run is important," Harmon said. "I have pasta the night before and pancakes in the morning." For Dye, getting warmed up leads to feeling better after the race. "I know the harder I work before the race, the more I can get done after." // Photo by P. Valdivia.

7. Take note
During some downtime on race day, Matt Dziewicki (9) finishes up some homework. The freshman enjoyed his first season with the high school team. "I like the challenge of proving to myself and others that I can do this," Dziewicki said. While at regionals, Dziewicki finished with a time of 18:35. // Photo by P. Valdivia

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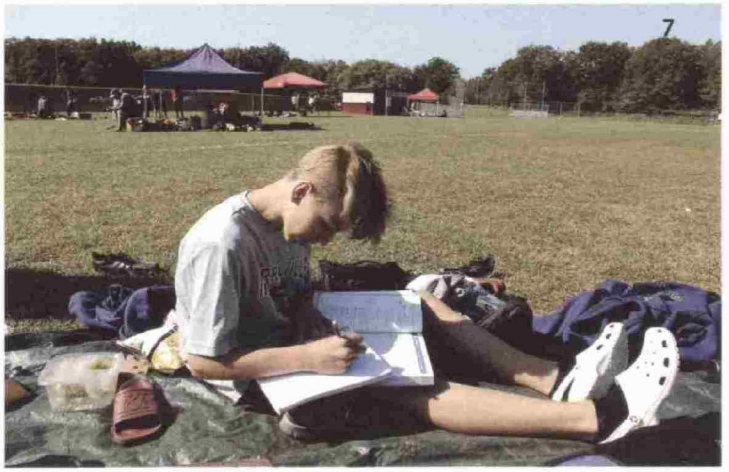
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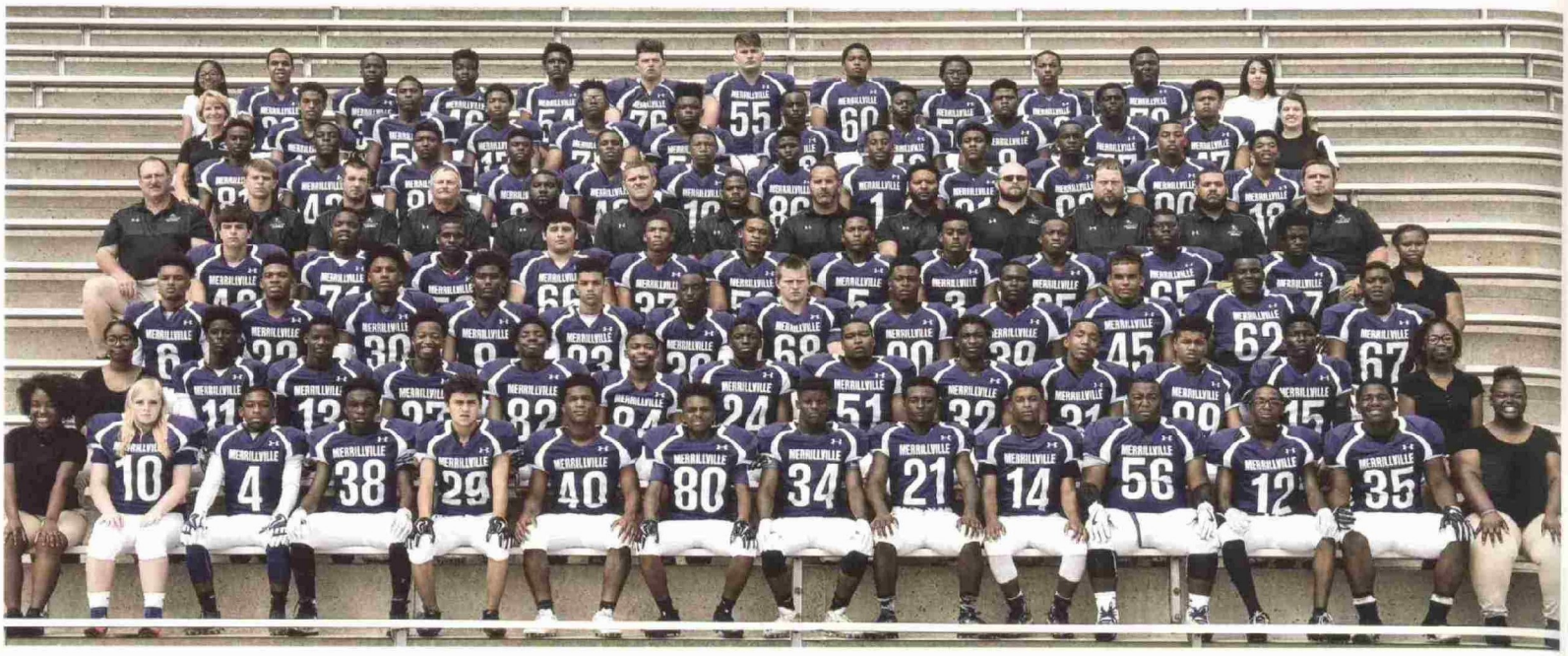


varsity/jv football

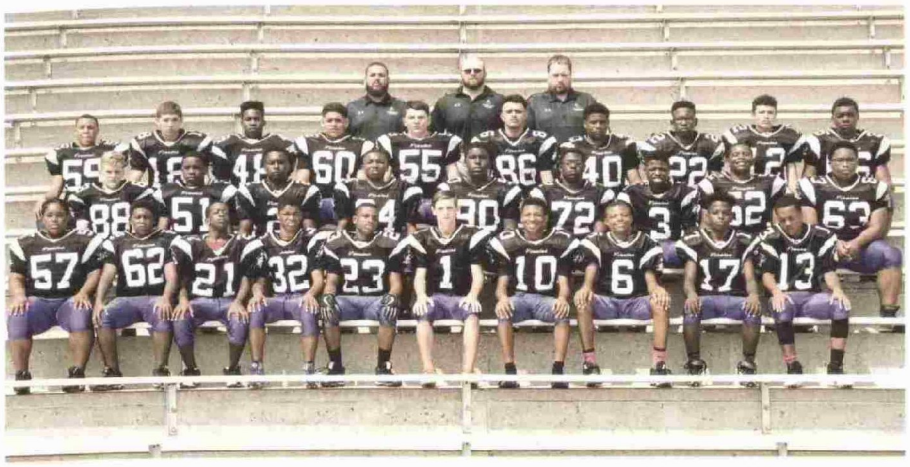
Head Coach: Brad Seiss
Front row: Janelle Scott, Meagan Wise, Xzavier Shell, Dreshon Garrett, Christian Gonzalez, Darius Schultz, Malachi Williams, Devin Davis, Damian Dixon, Raymond Span, Keylian Brown, Jeremiah Williams, Dakari Alford, Royale Miller; **Second row:** Amia Gidden, Armani Glass, Adonnis Johnson, Bobby Walton III, James Gillespie, Jaden Clark, Treshawn McMorris, Josiah Anderson, Derion Unger, Kenneth Hayes, Marcus Hayes, Jaylen Glass, Cora'taya Adams; **Third row:** William Fulton III, Anthony Swims, Marc Guererro, Tyler Henderson, Dominque Wood, Khalil Porter, Trayten Mikesell, KeShawn Lilly, Dennis Weston, Eddie Drake, Justyn Jones, Josiah Ellison; **Fourth row:** Nikola Djukic, Anthony Hudson, Brett Norton, Emilio Salas, Xavier Griffin, Michael Shell, Justin Rhodes, Cameron Wright, Aaron Griggs, Yantre Edwards, Jawanza Williams; **Fifth row:** Coach Joe Atria, Coach Conner Buxton, Coach Joe O'Connell, Coach Dennis Hamilton, Coach Bryant Isabel, Coach Brad Seiss, Coach Kenneth Smith, Coach Brian Parker, Coach Anthony Curry, Coach Tom Kelly, Coach Paul Trembacki, Coach Justin Givens, Coach Joshua Sabinas; **Sixth row:** Darrius Frierson, Seyi Akinwumi, Steven Dortch, Markus Fielder, Dontrell Pope, Jeremiah Howard, Robert Williams, Davin Latiker, Daijon Gray, Nicholas Price, KeShawn Lilly, Aahric Whitehead; **Seventh row:** Ms. Sue Hayes, Peter Rodriguez, Kris Walton, Dykeil Stingley, Keiaueri Joseph, Christian Brock, Kimonti Farr, Drew Bailey, Anthony Outlar, Justen Ramsey, Josh Benton, Ms. Rachel Dean; **Back row:** Mercedes Kurtis, Shedrick James, Tyjonn Lockett, Kalen Reese, Miller Blackwell IV, Brandon Streck, Anthony Atria, Ryan Atkins, Thomas Adams, Eric Kendrick, Martez Louis, Citlali Gomez.

	Us	Them
Andrean	13	42
Penn	0	7
Crown Point	34	26
Portage	21	28
Michigan City	28	56
LaPorte	20	42
Valparaiso	0	28
Lake Central	23	27
Chesterton	7	14
Sectionals		
Crown Point	13	24

girls' cross country

Head Coach: Patrick Coffey
Front row: Beah Corrales, Natalie Martinez, Marisol Ramirez, Sonia Baranski, Shamiya Beasley, Sadia Hildebrand; **Back row:** Coach Coffey, Natalie Dye, Akilah Ware, Prysma Valdivia, Brendea McNeal, Diamond Taher, Coach Michael Hoffman.

Wheeler	1st
Lake Central	6th
T.F. South	4th
Lowell	7th
New Prairie	17th
Rensselaer Central & Hanover Central	2nd
Highland	4th
Sectionals	
Crown Point	4th
Regionals	
Crown Point	6th
Semistate	
New Prairie	Dye, Taher, McNeal
State	
Terre Haute	McNeal



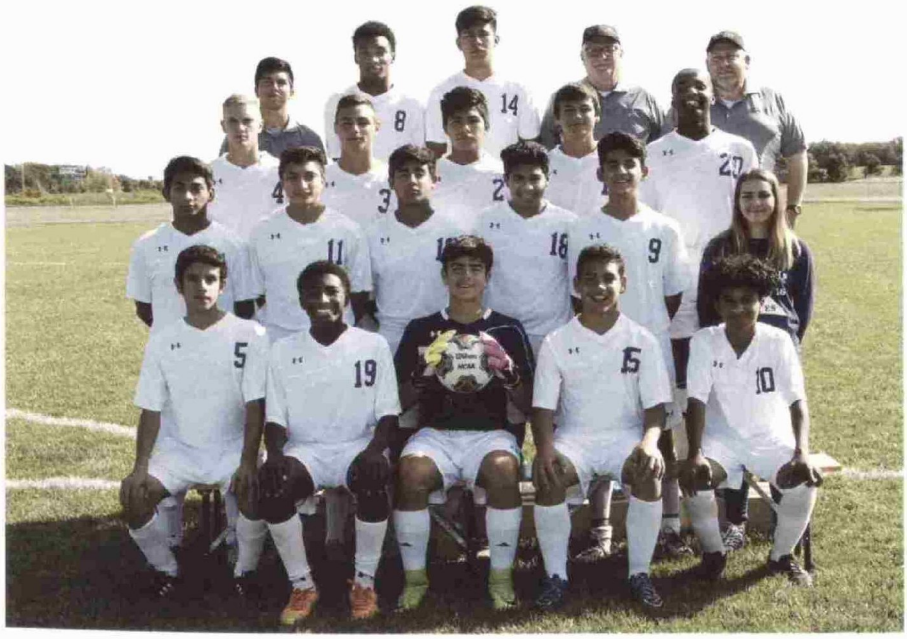
freshman football

Head coach: Tom Kelly
Front row: Shamari Garrett, Ruben Harris, Jeremiah Mahone, Cameron Williams, Messiah Selby, Austin Pupek, Trenton Clark, Jorryn Junigan, A'Veyawn Madry, Leon Roberts; **Second row:** Shad Ulrich, Donovan Mills, Edward Akins, D'Andre Taylor, Jaqai Gray, Deonte' Holbrook, Mikel Evans, Devin Sanders, Marcus Williams; **Third row:** Moneye Johnson, Xavier Leech, Sean Gardner, Avery Kirk, Jason Streck, Nathan Salazar, Austin Powell, Johnny Davis, Gavin Yuran, Dierre Kelly; **Back row:** Coach Justin Givens, Head Coach Tom Kelly, Coach Paul Trembacki.

boys' varsity soccer

Head Coach: Brian Past
Front Row: Anthony Rivera, Daniel Barajas, Alex Navarro , Juan Maldonado, Jose Fragoso; **Second row:** Austin Vo, Axel Martinez, Angel Cedillo, Marcos Hernandez, Jacob Maldonado, Juan Carillo, Tori Holst; **Third row:** Mike Croy, Dylan Burns, Yoshi Nangin, Niko Knight, Christian Licea, Niko Djukic; **Back row:** Coach Jimmy Ramirez, Victor Hernandez, Marco Hernandez, Rackesh Ragoo, Coach Rick Hurey, Coach Brian Past.

	Us	Them
Portage	0	4
Lafeyette Jeff	3	5
Andrean	1	2
LaPorte	2	5
KV	0	3
Chesterton	0	4
Martinsville	1	2
Madison C.	4	3
Zionsville	0	11
Vaparaiso	0	4
Munster	0	6
Michigan City	2	3
Lowell	0	2
Crown Point	0	10
W Lafayette	1	6
Lake Central	0	7
Hobart	4	1
Sectionals		
Valparaiso	0	2



boys' jv soccer

Head Coach: Rick Hurey
Front row: Kristopher Serrato, Jerry Walker, Nikola Djukic, Aleksandar Pejovski, Isaiah Vorice; **Second row:** Samuel Anguiano, Eloiso Barajas, Axel Martinez, Bilal Asghar, Said Jaime, Tori Holst; **Third row:** Tim Sunny, Anthony Rivera, Angel Cedillo, Martin Herrara, Malachi Shields; **Back row:** Coach Jimmy Ramirez, Rackesh Ragoo, Marco Hernandez, Coach Rick Hurey, Coach Brian Past.

varsity volleyball

Head Coach: Danielle Lewis
First row: Madeline Langer, Mikayla Brookshire, Emily Lesich, Jermani' Keys, Raven Edwards; **Back row:** Coach Lewis, Lauren Pryle, Hailey Karpen, Shelby Harmon, Alexis Ramos, Coach Amanda Banashak. Not pictured: Azariah Avery.

	Us	Them
Griffith	3	1
Lowell	0	3
Huntington	0	2
Hanover	0	2
Crown Point	0	3
Andrean	0	3
Portage	0	3
Hobart	2	3
Michigan City	0	3
Valparaiso	0	3
Winamac	0	2
KV	0	2
LaPorte	0	3
Lake Central	0	3
Chesterton	0	3
Washington Twp.	1	3
Crown Point	0	3
Wheeler	0	3
Portage	0	3
Michigan City	0	3
Valparaiso	0	3
Morton	3	1
LaPorte	0	3
Bishop Noll	0	3
Lake Central	0	3
Hanover	0	3
Chesterton	0	3
Sectionals		
Michigan City	0	3

jv volleyball

Head Coach: Laquana Carpenter
Front row: Raven Edwards, Mia Unmisig, Jodi Corrales, Diabolique Ridle, Amiah Jamison; **Back row:** Taira Amisu, Djarae Boykin, Allison Richardson, Kennedy Henderson, Britney Contreras, Jaylah Croft.

boys' cross country

Head Coach: Michael Hoffman
Front row: Nathan Dye, Jeremie Lander, Matthew Dziewicki, Alec Edwards, Gabriel Ochoa; **Back row:** Coach Patrick Coffey, Justin Bhe, Wesley Davis, Devin Pope, Hayden Harmon, Coach Hoffman.
Not pictured: Jacob Josleyn

	Us
Wheeler	3rd
Lake Central	6th
T.F. South	8th
Lowell	13th
New Prairie	26th
Rensselaer Central & Hanover Central	1st
Highland	5th
Sectionals	
Crown Point	4th
Regionals	
Crown Point	6th
Semistate	
New Prairie	Bhe, Landers

girls' soccer

Head Coach: Jeff Fairbairn
Front row: Maria Guardiola, Emily Garcia, Bea Tamo, Imani Butts, Aaliyah Moreno, Kennedy Tanniehill; **Second Row:** Reannah Soto, Meagan Wise, Myjae Armstrong, Viviana Lagunas, Miriam Velasco; **Third Row:** Paige Wood, Kristah Royster, Sarah Juarez, Brisa Sanford, Maritza Frazier, Jhonae Garmon; **Back row:** Coach Tammy Deel, Coach Fairbairn, Coach Jason Kendera. **Not pictured:** Sydney Kenner.

	Us	Them
Portage	2	3
Wheeler	1	12
Hanover	1	5
LaPorte	0	1
Highland	1	6
Chesterton	0	8
KV	1	1
Lowell	0	4
Valparaiso	1	9
Andrean	1	5
McCutcheon	0	6
Michigan City	1	4
Crown Point	2	9
Munster	0	4
Lake Central	0	5
Hobart	3	5
Sectionals		
Hobart	1	6

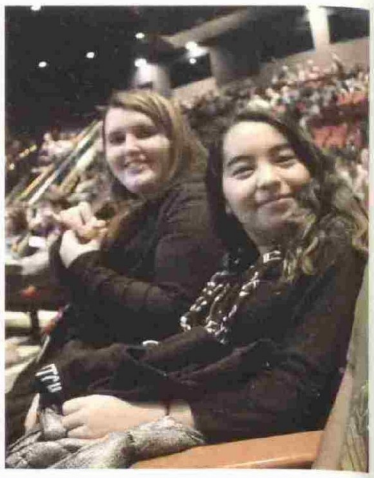
girls' jv soccer

Head Coach: Tammy Deel
Front row: Natalie Ordonez, Isatou Samba, Britney Robinson, Kiley Creal, Stephany Valladares, Andrea Hernandez; **Second row:** Yulissa Gonzalez, Monique Duque, Tavia Campbell, Alyssa Noland, Aminah Samba; **Third row:** Latoria Moss, Daniela Nevarez, Aaliyah Perry, Mylia Myricks, Kaylee Conner, Asia Gray; **Fourth row:** Lauryn Thomas, Jazmine Joseph, Emilie Leifelt, Sierra Ward, Jasmin Creal; **Back row:** Coach Jeff Fairbairn, Coach Tammy Deel, Coach Jason Kendera
Not pictured: Deverieux Coleman

boys' tennis

Head Coach: James Simon
Front row: Braden Worthington, Elijah Walker, Ronald Greene, Noah Terpstra; **Second row:** Kamri Smith, Coach James Simon, Cameron Louthan, Olusoji Oduneye, Jamar Williams, Coach Lonnie Wooden; **Third row:** D'Angelo Brown, Justin Jackson, Micah Rayburn, Ivan Sahagun, Michael Gaines; **Back row:** Keith Rochefort, Justin Villanueva, Joshua Raddatz, Anthony Williamson.

	Us	Them
KV	5	0
Highland	1	4
Wheeler	4	1
LaPorte	4	1
Portage	3	2
Michigan City	4	1
Chesterton	1	4
Lake Central	2	3
Valparaiso	1	4
Hobart	4	1
Crown Point	2	3
Lowell	3	2
Sectionals		
HAST	5	0
River Forest	5	0
Hobart	5	0
Regionals		
Munster	0	5



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Winter is a Song

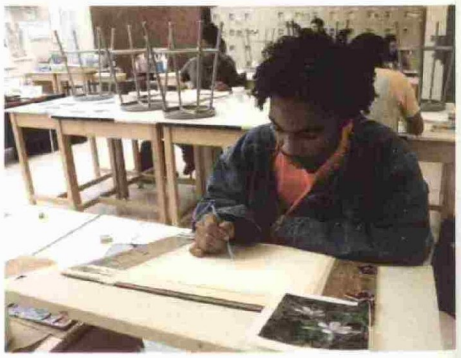
With frost comes the sounds of the season
Beats bouncing like the bodies of basketballs
Back and forth
Bow strokes carry the strings of violins
Brasses boom

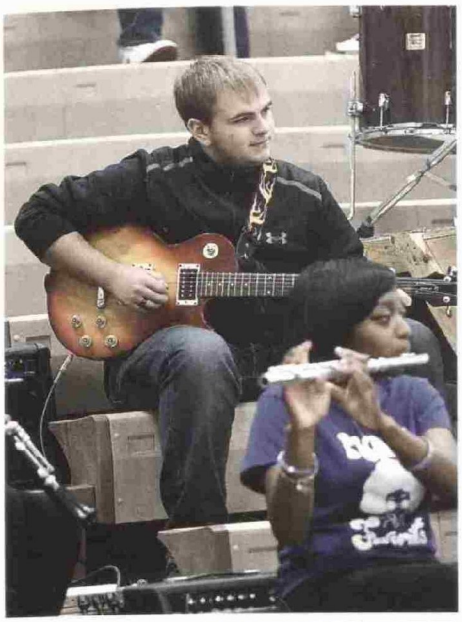
In merriment for the game that longs
for a win
And high kicks and flips kiss the air
Cheering on the players
Go team! Go!

Holiday sings a song in the voices
of our chorus
Musicals calling the hearts of our Scroogers
Heart of our student body

Winter is a song we all sing

// Ja'Leah Walker





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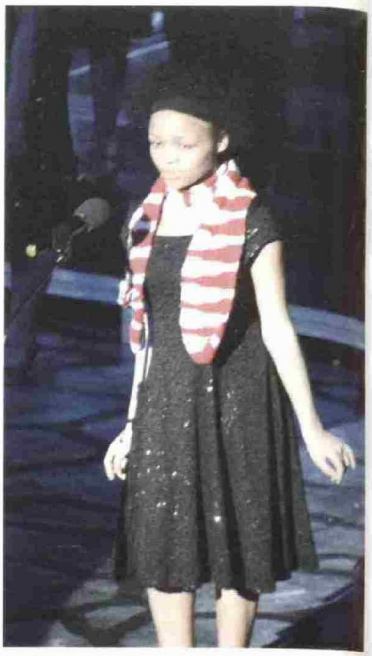
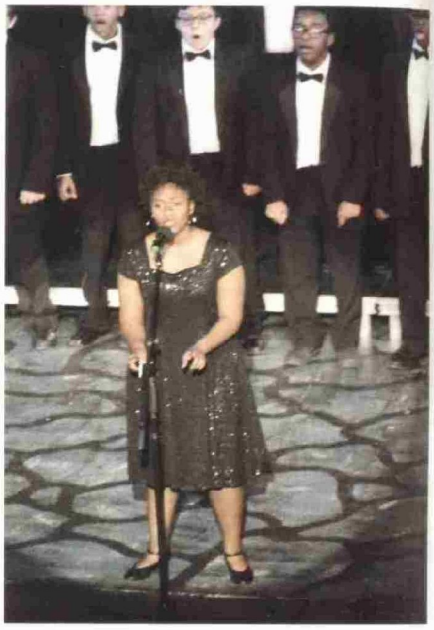
String together // During their holiday concert, the orchestra performs a combination of songs from the classic ballet "The Nutcracker." The combination had to be under three minutes, and Mr. Stamper helped count down the time with time cards.



Pitch perfect // Sporting a festive scarf, Aniya Edwards (11) performs a solo during the holiday concert. "People usually underestimate choir, but once they see our schedule they understand," Edwards said, explaining the hard work that goes into preparing for the event. "The last three days before the concert all the choirs have after-school rehearsals together for the first time for the concert, and it's interesting to see how we can work together in such a short amount of time."

Tempo is key // During the concert, Ms. Diane Rosenthal conducts the Advanced Orchestra as it plays a variety of holiday and classical music. "The concert includes orchestra students from MIS, Pierce and the high school. It is the first concert for our sixth-grade students and their welcome into the Merrillville orchestra family," Ms. Rosenthal said.



Merry melody // Taking center stage, Mia Godfrey (12) sings her solo, which captured the spirit of the season. "I had a solo singing about Jesus. I was really feeling it," Godfrey said. "I am a Christian and I felt in my place by having the solo and reflecting on what the holiday actually means."

Sweet escape // Creating sweet melodies, Ashanti Castleberry (10) plays her flute. The band has "opened up doorways to do more things when I get older (and) introduced me to fun people," Castleberry said. She enjoyed many of the songs so she had a difficult time when asked to pick a favorite. "That's very hard to say. I would have to say 'Sleigh Ride.' It makes me feel as if I'm actually taking a sleigh ride," Castleberry said.

Photos by J. Scolaro

Dynamic motion // As he closes out the holiday concert, Mr. Danielson conducts the Advanced Band as it performs holiday classics such as "Sleigh Ride" and "Parade of the Wooden Soldiers."

A season to share // Through their movements and music, the choir embodies the joy and cheer of the season at its annual concert.

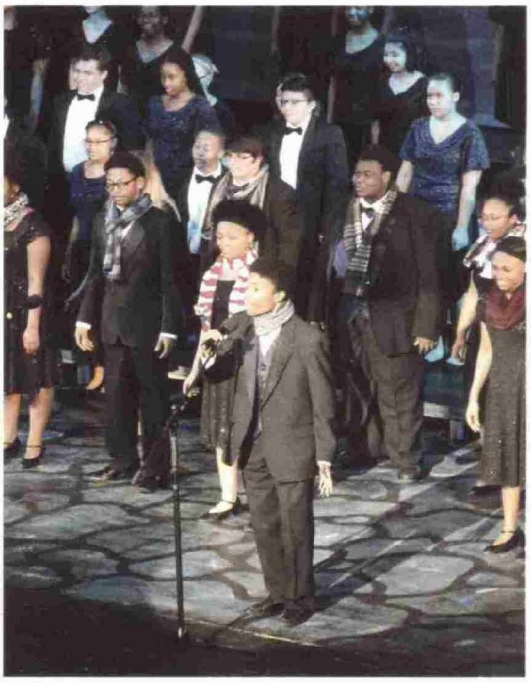
holiday cheer

The joy of the season brings entire choir together

The holiday season is hectic for the Choralteens. They bring their music throughout the community, including nursing homes and elementary schools. "Christmas is usually the most trying season for choir. We go to lots of different venues throughout the area and it leads up to the concert," Aniya Edwards (11) said. "It is a nice final celebration of the season."

All three choirs perform for the holiday concert. "The concert brings everyone together. . . . All three classes together shows what the program can do," Mia Godfrey (12) said. The holiday is about coming together with your family and the choir is no exception to that. "We have formed a family bond; we're together all the time," John Grace Jr. (12) said. "We're always around each other for gatherings and events."

Photos by J. Scolaro



In harmony // During his final holiday concert, John Grace Jr. (12) narrates "A Holiday to Remember." "It was very nice and a little bit sad because this will be my last opportunity to do this concert. It's been a lot of fun to do every single year so it will be something I will miss a lot," he said.

Holiday cheer // During a visit to an elementary school, Clarke Halliburton (11) is greeted by students enjoying the holiday season. // Photos by N. Clay

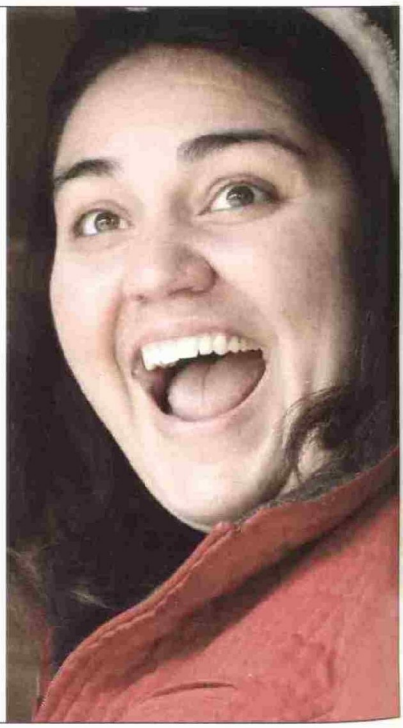
the reason for the season

Students bring holiday cheer to elementary schools

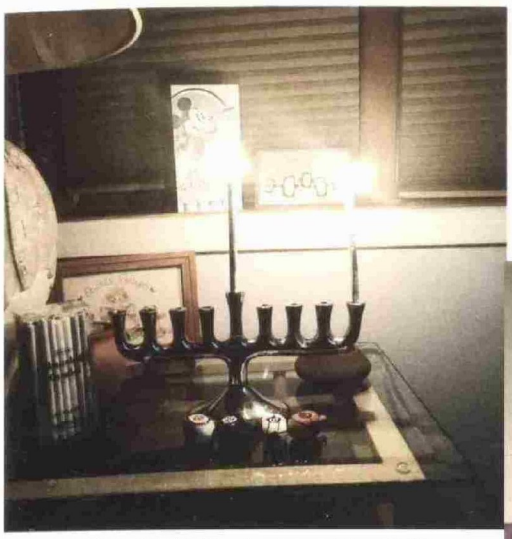
Each year, our Student Government works hard to ensure that every student enjoys the holiday season. This year, they spent hours buying, wrapping and delivering presents to children in need of some holiday joy. The gifts were provided by clubs, classrooms and teachers who sponsored students and purchased gifts from wish lists. Community members were also given the opportunity to sponsor a child. The wish list activities were split into two days and 10 students volunteered to wrap and deliver the presents to the elementary schools. Mr. James Stamper joined in the fun by doing his best Santa impression to bring bright smiles to the children's faces.

that Loving feeling

Despite only being at Merrillville for three years, Mrs. Sheryl Loving has graciously taken on the responsibilities of Student Government sponsor and spear-headed the multiple activities that the group does throughout the school year. "The holiday wish list is the most rewarding experience," Mrs. Loving said. "Especially this year when we got to surprise the elementary students with Santa when we delivered gifts." With her guidance, student government helped 41 families and gave 131 children presents.



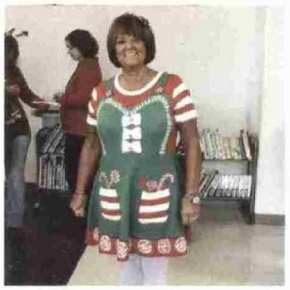
the way we celebrate



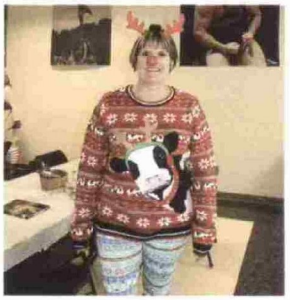
Happy Hanukkah! Students at Merrillville celebrate the holidays in different ways. Carly Gubitz (12) shows her appreciation for her Jewish heritage by lighting the traditional Menorah with her family. "It's important to celebrate Hanukkah because it means that I am honoring my past and present family by lighting the Menorah and being able to continue on that tradition each year," Gubitz said.

Merry Christmas! Viviana Lagunas (12) celebrates Christmas with her family and her dog Luna. "Every 1st of December me and my mom put up the tree and decorate it because it's one of our favorite holidays," Lagunas said. "We like the movies, songs and Chicago events that come with Christmas so it gets us hyped for it."

Crafty creation // After winning an award for her homemade Christmas vest, Mrs. Mona Nunnery shows off her masterpiece.



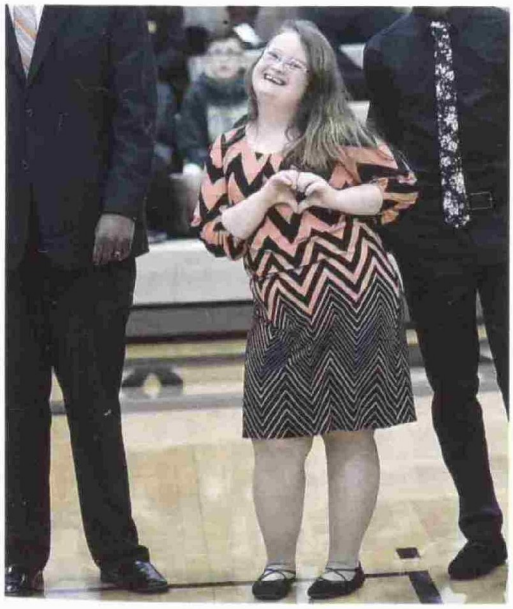
Sweet like candy // Posing with a smile, Athletic Director Janis Qualizza catches eyes with her head-to-toe festivity.



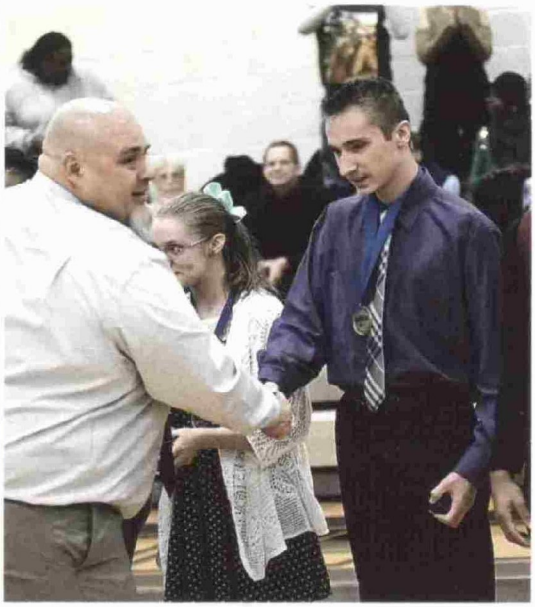
The red-nosed math teacher // With an unlikely Christmas animal on her sweater, Mrs. Rachelle Massacavollo shows her eye for design in her mismatched outfit.

All tied up // Standing next to the tree in the guidance office, Briana Thomas (10) displays her detailed and creative use of gift ribbons for a skirt and shoes.

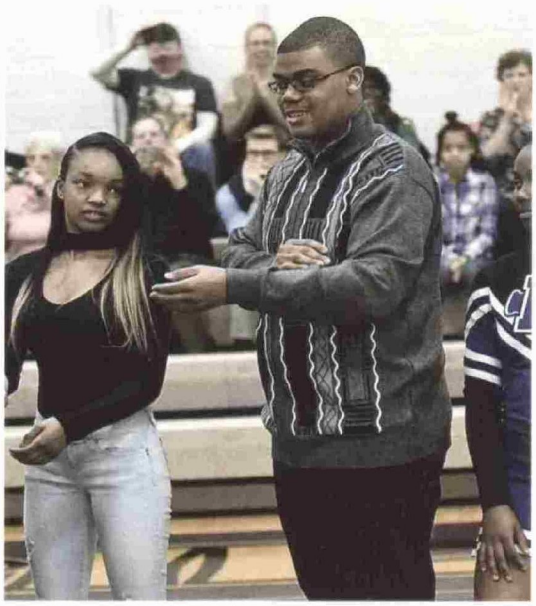
unified by pirate pride



As the Unified Track team receives their medals for winning the 2017 state title, Hanna Stevens (11) poses for the camera.

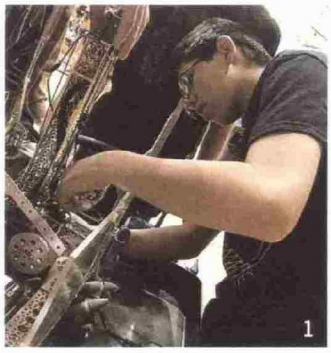


Shaking Mr. Christopher Richardson's hand, George Perosky (12) stands proudly with his championship medal around his neck.



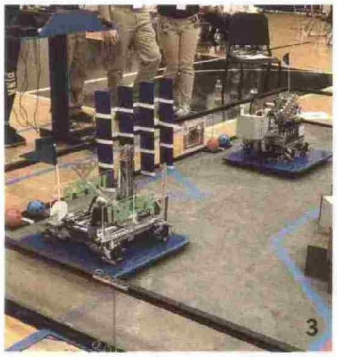
While receiving his award, Westley Jordan (12) stands next to two of his teammates.

radio-active *robots*



1. Fixed focus // Concentrating on improving the robot, Josh Lopez (10) works out the kinks on this year's model.

2.Technical teamwork // Working in unison, builder Arshawn Wynn (11) and faculty member Patrick Cudzilo begin the process of putting the robot together for competition.



3. Astonishing automation // As part of the competition, the Robotics team uses its robot to stack blocks.

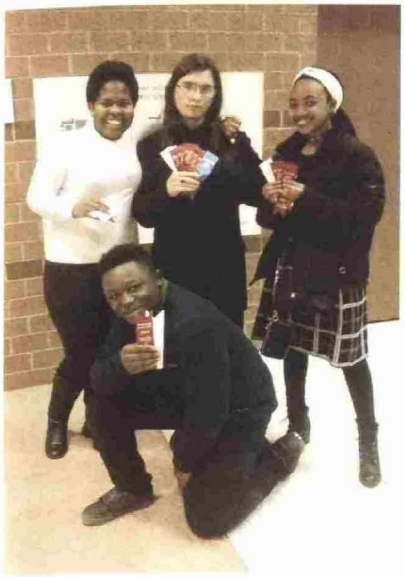
6. Award winners // After the state competition, (far left) Christopher Best (10), Deshaen Williams (10), (front) Johnny Davis (9), Emmani Ellis (11), (right) Hailey Karpen (11), and Christian Riveron (12) stand with another team as they celebrate their second-place finish.

Even though Robotics is a new club, introduced to Merrillville just last year, the team is not new to the skills needed to make a well-oiled competitive robot. This year's Robotics team, going by the name of "Radioactivity," constructed a robot that placed 2nd in the state championship against 34 other teams. The team worked on enhancing the robot all year to prepare for the final competition. "All of this comes from scratch," Josh Lopez (10) said. "There's no tutorial to tell you what to do."

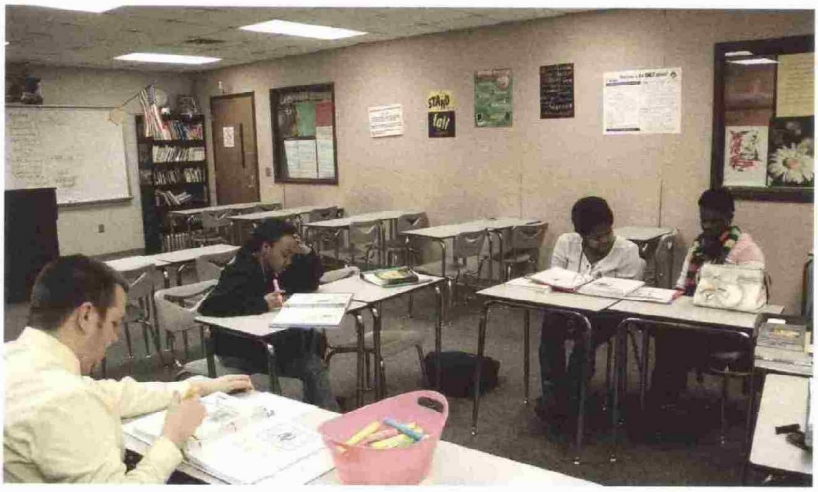
4. Interface interactions //During a competition, club President Hailey Karpen (11) advises drivers Christopher Riveron (12) and Christopher Best (10) on how to instruct their robot.

5. Pirate pride // At left, Michael Duran (10), Hailey Karpen (11), Josh Lopez (10) and Arshawn Wynn (11) pose with their trophy after winning a competition at Griffith High School.

academic decathlon



Studying success // Showing off their accomplishments, Academic Decathlon members Joy Obong (12), Robert Hasan (10), Imani Butts (11), and Arshawn Wynn (11) pose to take a picture with their individual regional award ribbons.



Expanding their horizons // Eager to learn more, Academic Decathlon members Imani Butts (11), Joy Obong (12) and Elaine Miller (12) review their study materials on Africa. The team studied the topic from a variety of angles including history, economics and literature. "I enjoy meeting new people that have academic abilities and learning from them," Butts said. // Photo by Azariah Avery

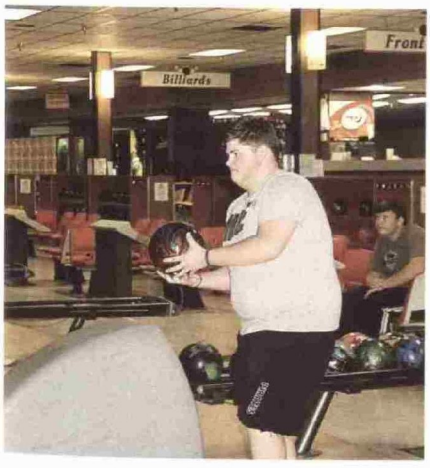
mlk day brunch

Lifting their voices // Providing entertainment, Voices of Reason members inspire the crowd at the annual brunch hosted by the STAND club to honor the message of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

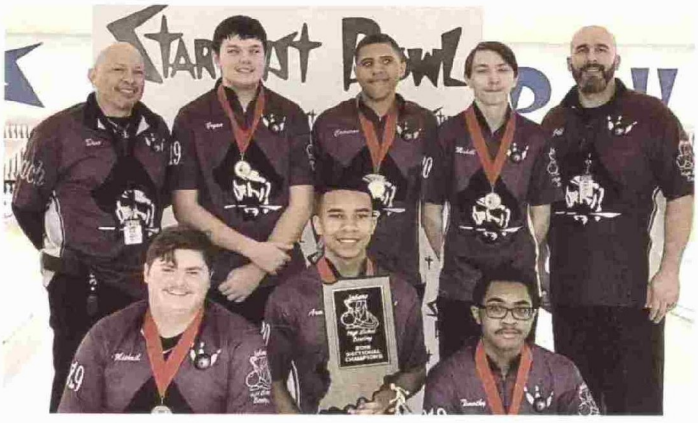
Marking 20 years // Showing their thanks to Director of Diversity Danny Lackey, members Zaria A. Rock (12), Tasha Neal (11) and Cameron Figueroa (12) award him a plaque marking the 20th anniversary of the club.

Remembering Ms. Poindexter // During an emotional moment, Carly Gubitz (12) and Tatiana Peters (12) show their appreciation for the late Ms. Tonda Poindexter and present flowers to her family.

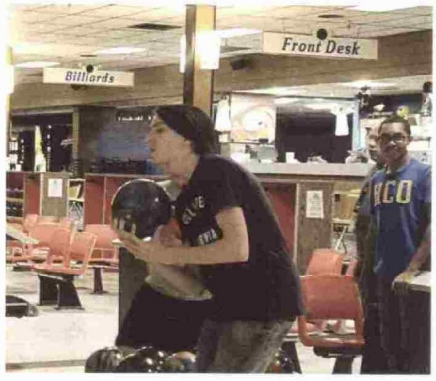
striking for success



No spare time // With fierce concentration, Michael Austin (11) makes his throw count as he gets his turn during practice at Stardust Bowl in Merrillville. The dedication paid off as the team won several tournaments and finished second at state.



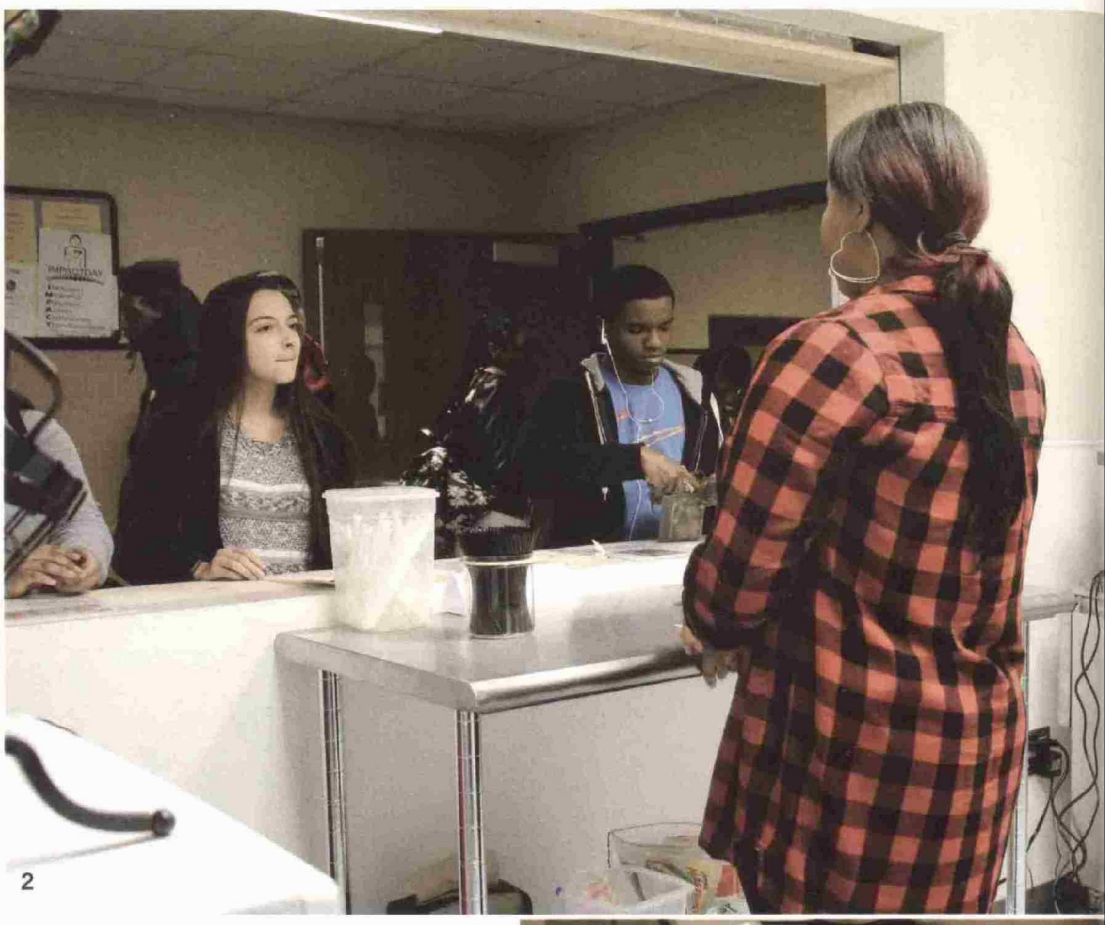
We are the champions // Smiling with pride, the members of the bowling team and their coaches show off their sectional championship trophy. The team wound up placing second overall in the state championship round. Front row: Michael Austin, Armon Peloza, and Timothy Hughes; Back row: Coach Woods, Bryan Sobczak, Cameron Woods, Mitchell Gromek, and Coach Peloza.



Taking aim // During one of the weekly practices, Mitchell Gromek (10) takes careful aim. The bowlers showed great dedication as the season began in early fall and ended with the state tournament in February.

crunchin' at the cove

1. By the book // As she slides the cake into the oven, Taylor Bryant (11) follows the recipe with precision. // Photo by I. Johnson



During the second half of the school year, it wasn't uncommon to see students lined up in the back hallway, waiting for their morning beverages. That's thanks to the Pirates' Cove and the determination of the culinary arts instructor, Ms. Patti Tubbs.

Tubbs has been planning this new addition to the Merrillville food services for quite a while. "While I was going through teacher training, we had visited several schools throughout the state that had culinary programs. I thought it would be a great idea to bring something like that to Merrillville," Tubbs said.

With this new addition, students were able to enjoy more of a variety of foods and drinks for a reasonable price, all made by their fellow students.

4. Order up! // Working the counter, Dominique Holden (12) serves Ms. Bennett Gallivan and Bionca Sams (11) during the teacher lunch service on Wednesdays. // Photo by I. Johnson

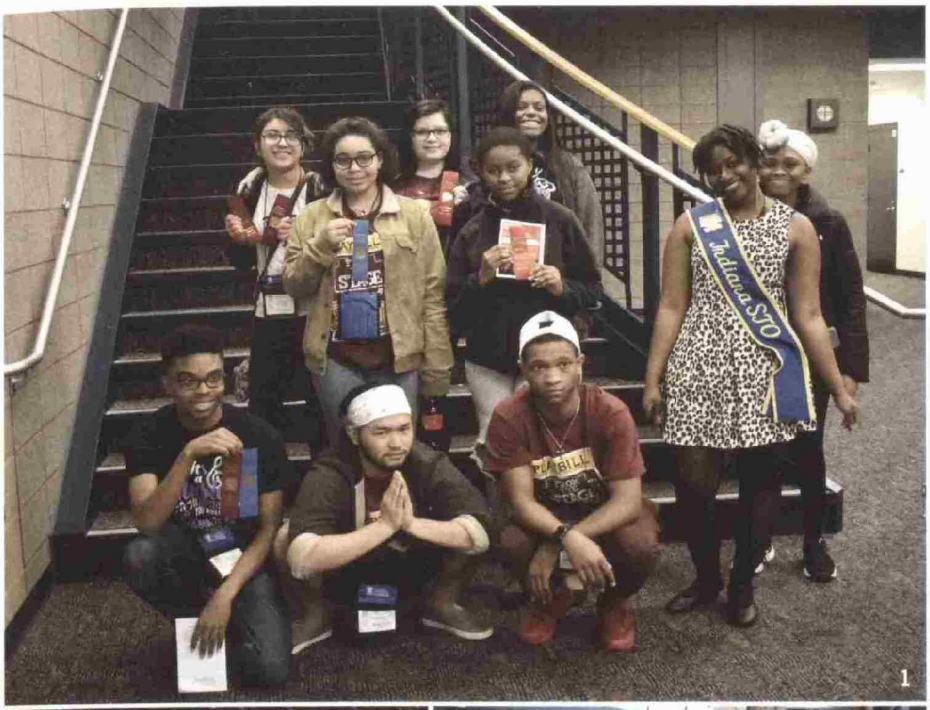
2. May I take your order? // Waiting at the front of the line, Sabrina Thormann (12) gives her order to Taylor Bryant (11). // Photo by A. Robinson

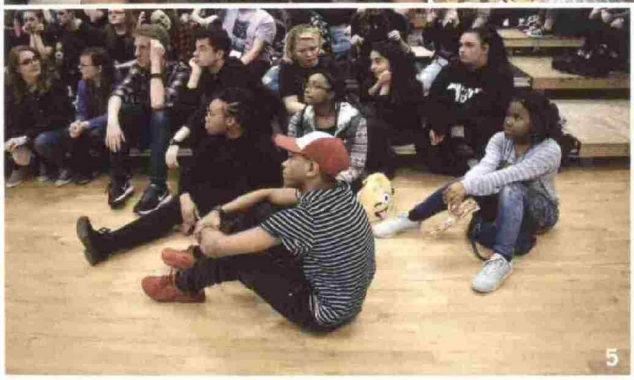
3. Pressing paninis // As the chefs prepare food, the smell of paninis fills the room. The paninis were used for teachers' lunches on Wednesdays. // Photo by I. Johnson

5. Bread and butter // Getting messy with the butter, Jamala Crosby (11) and Diamond Sanders (10) butter the paninis to get them ready to grill. // Photo by I. Johnson

drama downstate

The last weekend of January was a busy one for the theater department as 25 students in the Thespian Troupe traveled to Indianapolis for the International Thespian State Conference (ITS). Nicole Hollowell (12), John Grace Jr. (12), Jordan Munchenburg (11), and Lucas Reinhart (11) all received superior awards due to their outstanding performances, while many other students received awards of excellence. "We always do very well, and we always represent the school in a fantastic manner," Mr. Thomas Mackey, the troupe sponsor, said.





1. Leaving their legacy // Enjoying their final Thespian State Conference, seniors Jasmine Jaramillo, Leia Mesarch, Azjanae Cruz, Nicole Hollowell, Kaylah Johnson, Cara Blanford, John Grace Jr., Ferdinand Aton, JaKobe Wilbon and Mia Godfrey take a group picture outside of the auditorium. "It was very enjoyable, but kind of sad to think that it was my last year at state," John Grace Jr. said.

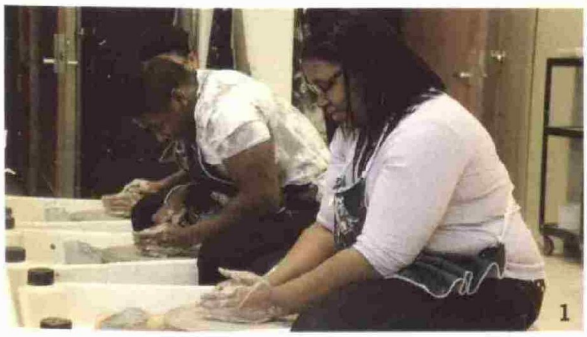
2. And the award goes to . . . // Waiting eagerly, JaKobe Wilbon (12), Azjanae Cruz (12), Kaylah Johnson (12), Lucas Reinhart (11), and Cara Blanford (12) sit in the auditorium prior to the ITS Award Ceremony

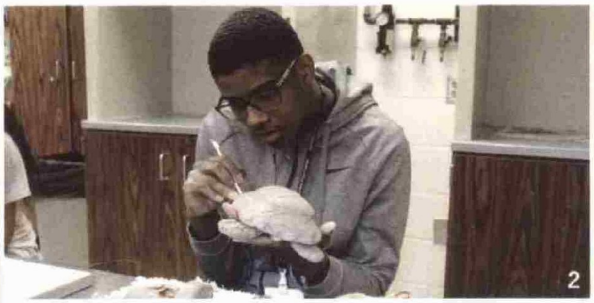
3. Duck hunt // Browsing for rubber ducks to buy, Myia Dickerson (9), Aaliyah Perry (10), and Benjamin Green (11) participate in a Thespian State Conference bonding tradition.

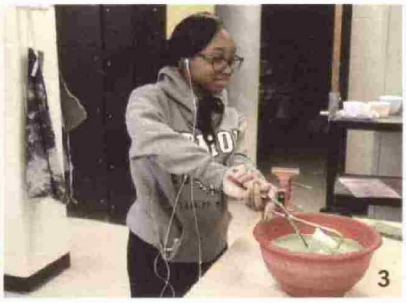
4. From stage to screen // Focusing on the stage before them, Jalen Conti (10) and Aaliyah Perry (10) sit together during one of the high school performances.

5. Improv unity // Listening to instructions, Jacqueline Lewis (10), Myia Dickerson (9), Aaliyah Perry (10) and JaKobe Wilbon (12) get ready to participate in an intense improv game.

creative crafting



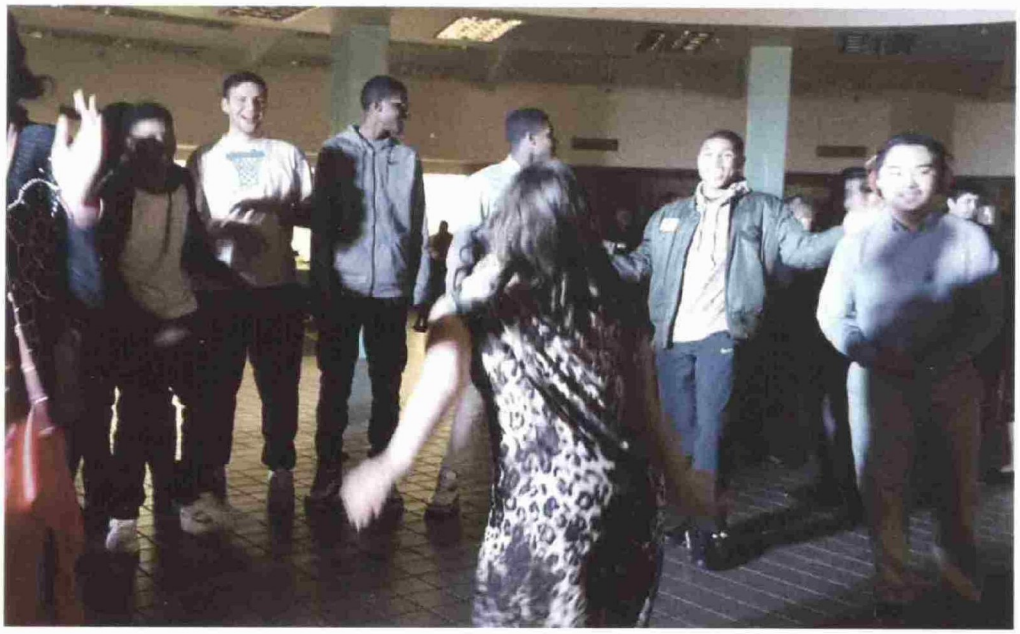




1. Wheels a turnin' // Concentrating on their art, Dahjanee Bynum (11) and Brett Norton (12) get their hands dirty as they form the clay on the turntable.

2. Key to concentration // Focusing on getting his lines precise, Nakia Chinn (12) takes his time as he works on his turtle sculpture in ceramics class.

3. In a Glaze // Enthusiastic about completing her project, Tanecia Maclin (12) puts the finishing touches on her ceramic bowl. // Photos by P. Valdivia

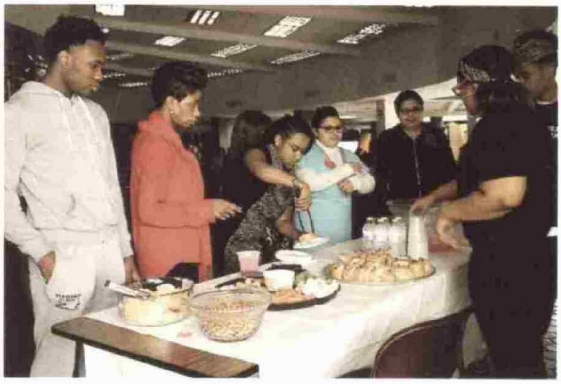


Everybody dance now! // Stopping by after practice, the basketball players join the students on the dance floor. About 80 students took part in the fun that evening.

dance the *night* away

A long night under the dark lights had students from all over the region dancing. The FCCLA Club (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America) hosts an annual dance every year at Merrillville High School. "The (dance) was a lot of hard work, but seeing all the students having fun and enjoying themselves really made it worth it," Alana Winters (12) said. This year, the students had a special treat when members of the basketball team hit the dance floor after practice. The students enjoyed getting to know each other better while dancing and snacking on treats.

Fast friends // Getting to know each other, JaDavia Gavin (11) and SanTana Southall (11) pose with a visiting student. It's a tradition to invite students from other schools. "It gives the students a chance to have fun," Southall said.

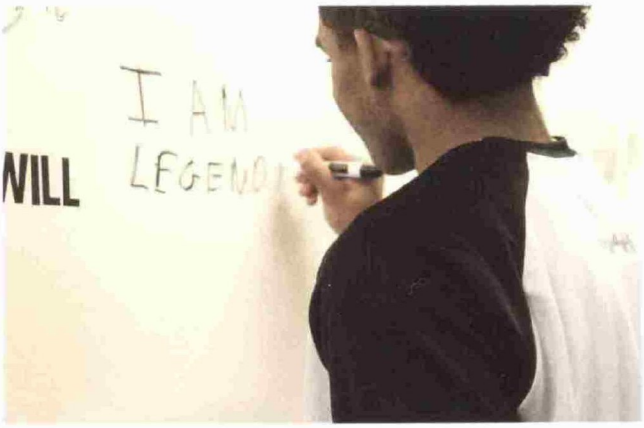


Eat up! // After preparing a small feast, the Culinary Arts students serve snacks to the dance attendees. The students volunteered to help during the event, preparing food for the attendees to enjoy.

Say cheese // Taking time out for a picture, Mercedes Williams (12), Trinity Thomas (11) and Alana Winters (12) smile for the camera. "It wasn't my first time (at the dance), but I believe it was the greatest. It was wonderful because everyone had a great time," Williams said.

Photos by Imani Butts

Powerful words // Focusing on the positive, "I AM" phrases fill a whiteboard. "The I AM simply is a statement that has been said by scientists to be the most powerful phrase you can ever say," Tatiana Peters (12) said. // Photos by M. Murphy



Legendary // Taking in confidence, Paul Lopez writes his "I AM" statement. "STAND helped me feel better as a person, I actually expressed how I was," Lopez (11) said.

I Am!

Writing down a statement can empower your confidence. The STAND (Socially Together and Nationally Diverse) club has an annual workshop every year, inviting students from Merrillville, as well as neighboring schools. Andrean High School students attended this year. This year the workshop included the "I AM" activity. "I was trying to emphasize the importance of positive words. It was my closing activity to show the kids you have to restate these things in your life, you have to be confident, and you have to believe in yourself," Tatiana Peters (12) said.

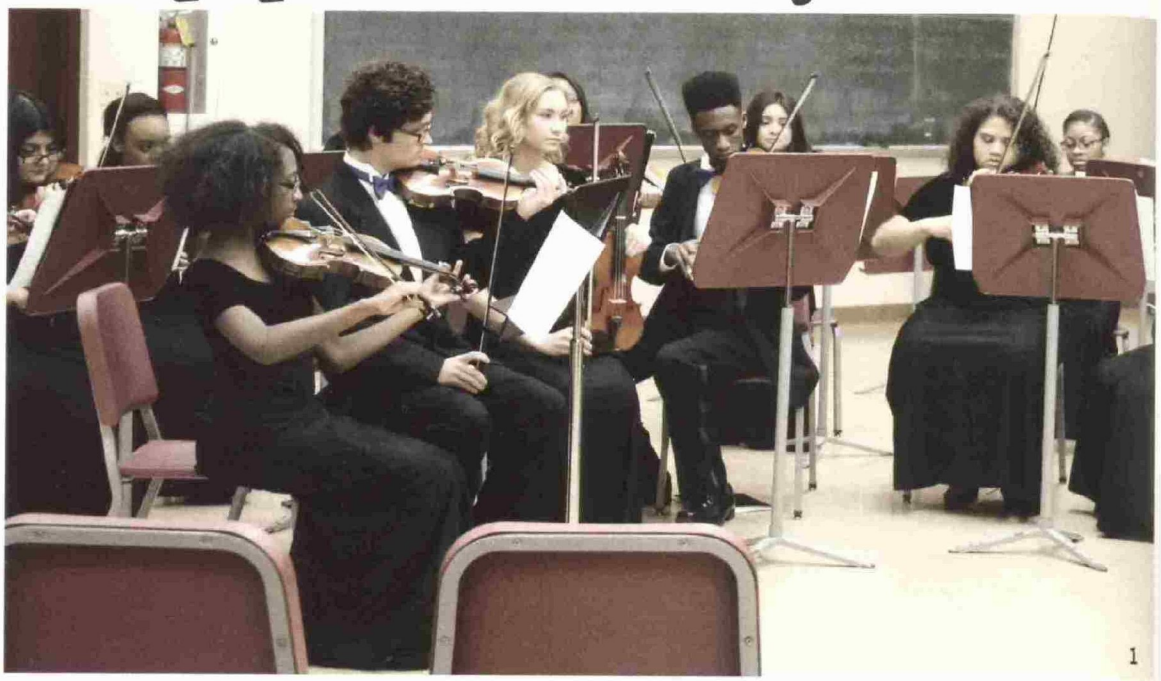
panther pride

Wakanda forever // Taking a powerful stance, Makayla Funches (10) shows her love for the movie. "Black Panther stands for how we can do things just like others and how powerful and great we can become," she said.

Superhero fanatics // Showing their Panther pride, students pose by the movie poster. "We all are interested in superhero movies in general, but this movie in particular . . . because of its cultural representation," Kelli Thomas (11) said.

The record-breaking movie "Black Panther" raked in over $1 billion dollars in just 26 days. Students were excited to see a movie with an African-American superhero. It wasn't uncommon to see students in the hall do the "Wakanda salute." "Being a black girl in America, this movie meant everything to me, having people with the same skin color as me being represented in a strong way. I also enjoyed seeing the women as protectors of the land. Overall, Black Panther overrides societal norms and stereotypes," Kelli Thomas (11) said.

golden *opportunity*



1. Time crunch // As the regional ISSMA competition is ready to begin, members of the Advanced Orchestra get their instruments ready. The group received a gold and advanced to the state competiton, where it also won gold.

2. Fierce focus // With their bows ready, Patience Lyles (10), Kaylee Conner (10), and Sierra Ward (10) focus on playing a piece of music. Their eyes stayed glued to the music while they played, ensuring they stayed in sync and scored well in the competition.

Orchestra students played well and were each other's strongest supporters at the regional instrumental ISSMA contest. In front of a particularly tough panel of judges, over 100 MHS students joined forces to earn 27 gold and 20 silver medals. Twenty-six students qualified for state. "I was most proud of the way they handled themselves with class and professionalism," orchestra teacher Diane Rosenthal said. All 26 who performed at state received gold, including soloists NiJaia Jones, Justin Hinton, Cheyenne Figueroa (with distinction award) and William Smith (with distinction award).

3. Pirate pride // After the competition, Deonna Bowens (10) and Ivan Sahagun (11) take a minute to relax. Bowens smiled as she proudly displayed her medal.

4. Smiling seniors// Following their performance, Justin Hinton (12), Kayla Miller (12), Asia Gray (12), Dulce Cuazitl (12) and Rosario Contreras (12) smile for a photo. This year marked the seniors final performances at ISSMA.

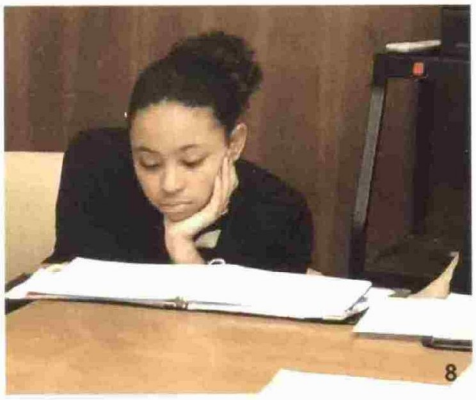
5. In Sync // With intense focus, Tyler Jasso (12) and William Smith (12) perform at the regional ISSMA competition. "Knowing that was my last thing I had to play my best, so I might as well make it worth it," Smith said.

positive verdict for mock trial

The varsity Mock Trial team reached new successes as it won the regional competition for the first time. The team advanced to the state competition where it finished in 14th place. Winning first place at regionals was a thrill for the students. "I knew we did well, but it was crazy because we didn't expect to get first place," Nialah Clay (11) said. Several members received individual accolades, including Clay, Danielle LeGrand (12), Imani Butts (11), Deverieux Coleman (10) and Joenathan Smith (11). The JV team also did well in its first year, finishing fourth, with Ariel Riley and Daniella Uvalle receiving awards.

6. Regional champions // After a successful first round, the team poses in the courtroom in Indianapolis. Front row: Deverieux Coleman (10), Nialah Clay 11), Joenathan Smith (11) and DeAnna Burton (12). Back row: Nina Scott (11), Imani Butts (11), Azariah Avery (10), Brookelyn Burks (11), Jacqueline Lewis (10), Ariel Riley (10), Jaden Lewis (11), Danielle LeGrand (12) and Chanelle LeGrand (10).

7. Star witness //Testifying at the state competition, Danielle LeGrand (12) puts on a show with her first-rate British accent. LeGrand received special recognition as one of the top witnesses in the competition.



8. Prepping for trial // While waiting for the competition to begin, Deverieux Coleman takes advantage of the time to review her lines.

9. Practice makes perfect // Listening intently, Ariel Riley (10), Imani Butts (11) and Nialah Clay (11) get some advice from local attorney David Gladish as they prepare for the regional competition.

The MHS choir and band both saw success during ISSMA. At the ISSMA State Solo and Ensemble competition, 35 choir students competed and 18 soloists earned gold medals, seven of those were "Gold with Distinction" medals. Seven ensembles also received "Gold with Distinction" medals. Band students also saw success at the state competition, Senior Kayla Josleyn won a gold medal and Junior Leilani Cruz received a silver. Meanwhile, the Jazz Band and Jazz Orchestra also received golds at the State Festival.

10. Pirate pride // During a competition in Howell, Mich., the First Year Color Guard demonstrates their skills, taking home a 2nd place trophy. drill teams.

drill team wins honors

11. Armed with pride // Standing at attention, the Advanced Armed Drill Team undergoes inspection. The team received a 2nd place trophy. Front Row: Eric Hollowell (10) and Jonathan Collins (11), Cristal Mena (11); Second Row: Samora Patrick (11), Stephanie Herrera (12), and Brooklyn Ford (11); Back Row: Raymond Davila (11), Cameron Chenault (11), and Jacob Loyd (10). Merrillville's Air Force JROTC's drill team finished 2nd overall at the competition.

1. Team huddle // Huddling before the game, the starters worked hard to motivate each other through rough patches. // Photos by T. DiGrispino

2. Air time // As she goes up for a ball, Sheki'nah Thomas (9) soars above her opponents. Thomas earned varsity time as a freshman.

shooting for the stars

Lady Pirates push through a tough season with hard work

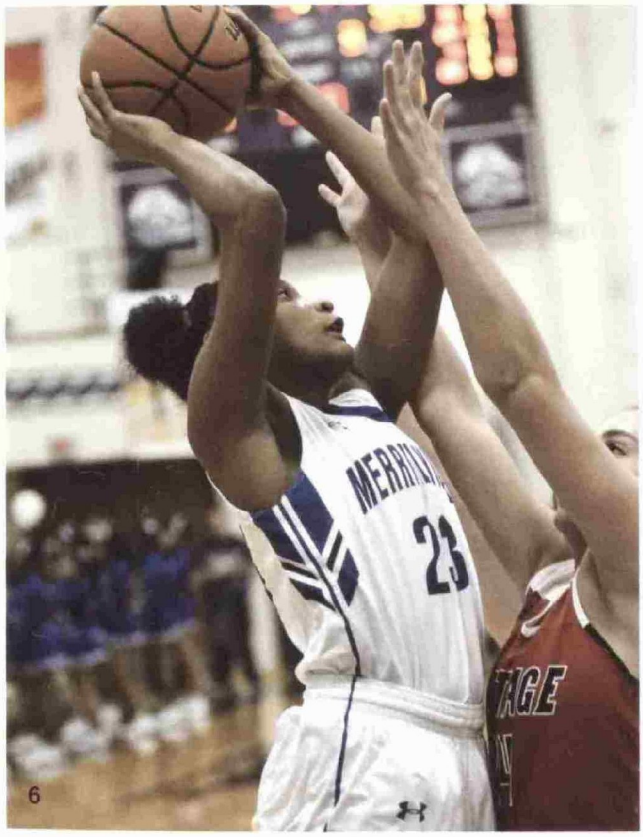
This year's team faced some uncharacteristic challenges after losing a number of starters to graduation. "I had to learn when it was right and wrong to do certain things. Things that can only be learned during game situations," Kennedy Tanniehill (12) said.

"We knew what we were supposed to be doing, but we got inside of our own heads when we made mistakes or when we were down points," Myjae Armstrong (11) said.

Despite the hardships, the team stuck together to do its best. Armstrong said what got them through the season was "teammates constantly picking each other up and support from the coaching staff and teachers." Tanniehill also found motivation "wanting to be better for the team and knowing that we're all there to accomplish the same goal, and if one person slacks that could jeopardize the whole team."

4. Making her move // With a defender in her face, Denae Joshua (12) keeps her composure to get her shot away. // Photos by T. DiGrispino

5. Ready and waiting // As she looks for an open teammate, Myjae Armstrong (11) considers her options carefully.



6. Rising star // Rising above her defender, Brittney Williams (12) puts up a shot for the Pirates. Williams signed to play in college with Indiana University Northwest. // Photos by T. DiGrispino

7. On point // Calling the play, senior guard Kennedy Tanniehill directs her team as she brings the ball down court.

8. Looking out // In her freshman year, Torri Miller was named a starter for the team, teaming with Kennedy Tanniehill at the guard spot.

3. Senior moves // As she races into the paint, Shelby Harmon (12) looks for her next move.

Soaring to **success**

Pirates rule in regular season, but hit speed bump in tournament

Foregoing your own agenda for the bettering of the team is a difficult concept for most young players, but the Pirates made it look easy with their strong season.

"Everybody is getting a feel for each other and are clicking more," Johnny Bernard (12) said. "But that's what happens when everyone is working hard and wanting to get better."

Cameron Wright (11) said sacrificing becomes a lot easier once the team begins thinking as one and not individually. "The chemistry is actually good. We started hanging with each other. I feel I've contributed my intensity and great work ethic to the team," he said.

When the wins stacked up, staying humble became an even harder task. "I love winning and it's not easy so you have to enjoy it. Winning is why you play," Wright said.

Although the team was on a win streak heading into the postseason, Darryon Bandy (11) knew the team could not coast. "Best part of a win streak is knowing you're doing something right. The hardest part is to keep it up," he said.

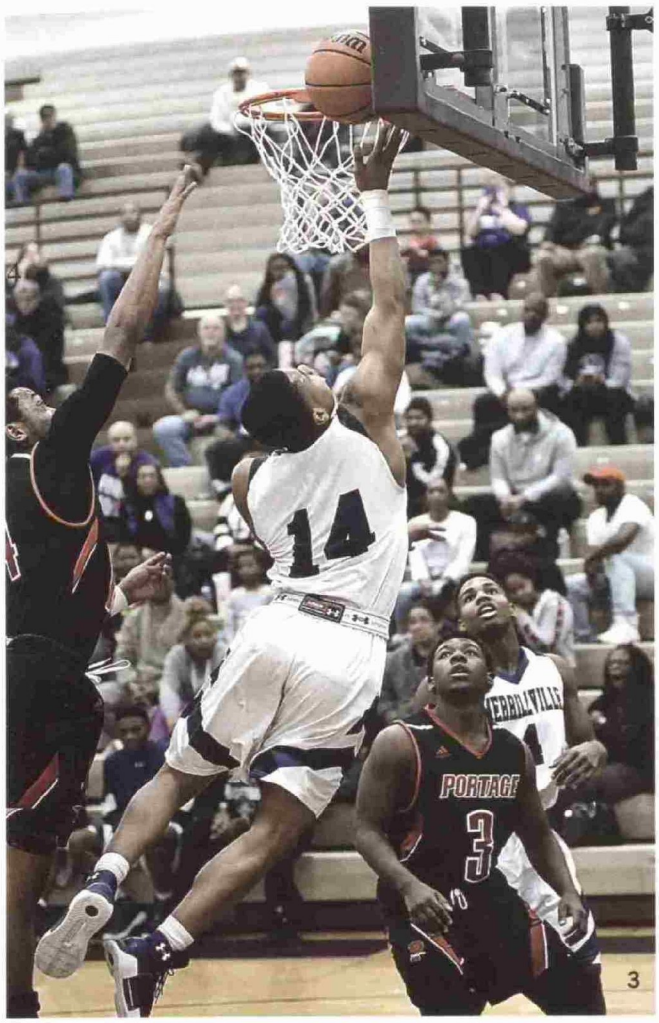
The Pirates finished the season as co-DAC champions with a record of 18-8. Unfortunately, the regular-season success did not translate to winning in the postseason tournament. Bernard led the Pirates to a decisive 80-59 victory in the opening game of sectionals with 31 points. However, they came up against a tough Valparaiso squad in the title game, finishing just short.

1

2

1. Flying high: // Going in for the slam, Johnny Bernard (12) scores for the Pirates."Getting shots up and working on my handling are some ways I try to improve," Bernard said. "The coaches and my teammates are the biggest reason for my success though – they are always on me to get me to be the best I can be." // PHotos by T. DiGrispino

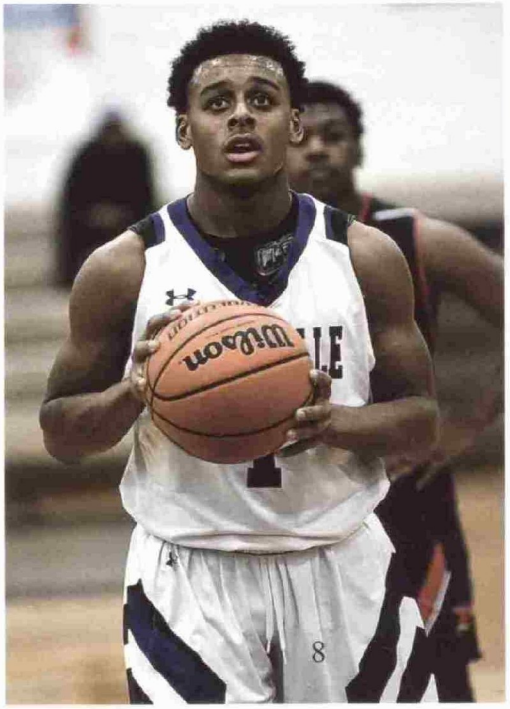
2. Open & ready // Looking for the ball, Braedan Stubbs (12) moves to an open space. Stubbs came back from a severe knee injury to boost the Pirates in his senior season. "The toughest part was having patience because coming back from this kind of injury takes 6-9 months," Stubbs said.



3. Battle ready // Going hard in the paint, Robert Sanders (12) fights for the tip-in. Before the season, Sanders predicted, "If we work as a team offensively and defensively, we can be very successful." // Photos by T. DiGrispino

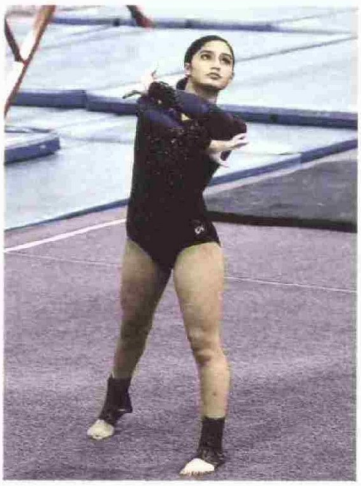
4. Skyward // Leaping in the air, Jaylon Holmes (12) wins the tipoff. Holmes credited the strong team bond for its success. "Our team's chemistry has greatly improved and you can see that with our defense that's improved," Holmes said. "We've just locked in mentally and it's led to wins."

Handle with care // Surveying the court, Will Fulton (11) brings the ball beyond the eight second line and looks for his next move. // Photos by T. DiGrisipino



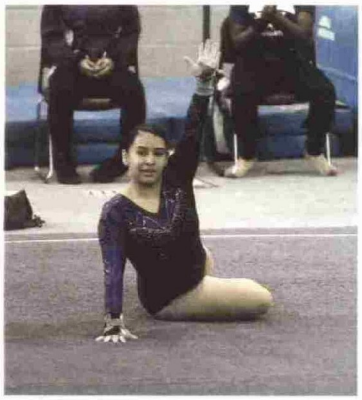
Toe the line // Focusing on knocking down the free throw, Cameron Wright (11) ignores the pressure surrounding him. "Concentration is big in trying to hit shots in close situations," Wright said. "Knowing I have my teammates as support helps, too."

On the rise // Attacking the basket, Darryon Bandy (11) puts one in. Bandy worked hard in the offseason to prepare for the season. "I improved individually through taking smarter shots and getting better on defense," Bandy said. "You get out what you put in so I make sure to put in my all."

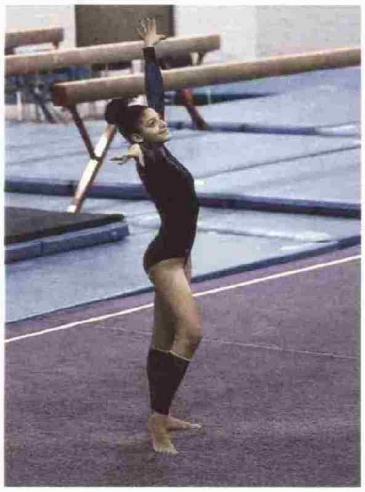


strike a pose

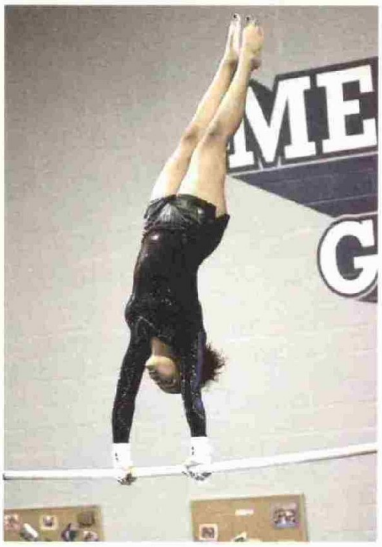
Picture perfect // Beginning her floor routine, Gabriela Aponte (10) strikes a dramatic pose. First impressions are very important because they set the stage for the rest of the routine. // Photos by T. DiGrispino

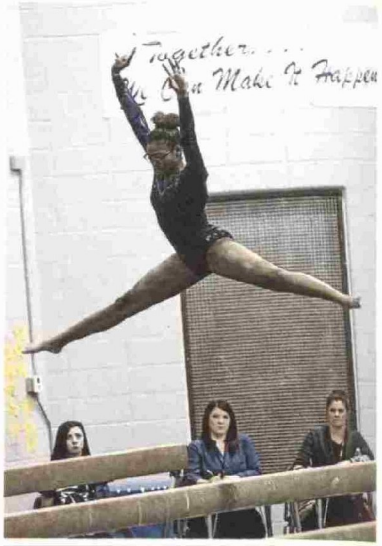


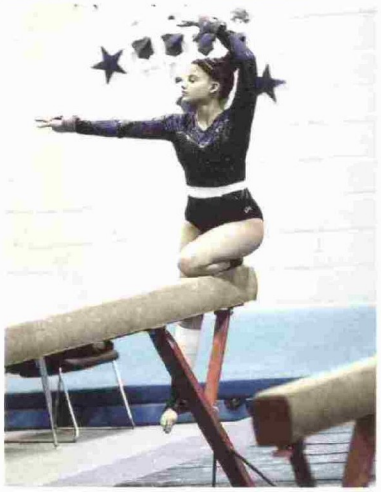
Sitting pretty // In her floor routine, Gabrielle Malave (10) strikes a number of unique poses. The routine featured violin music, along with unique dance passes.

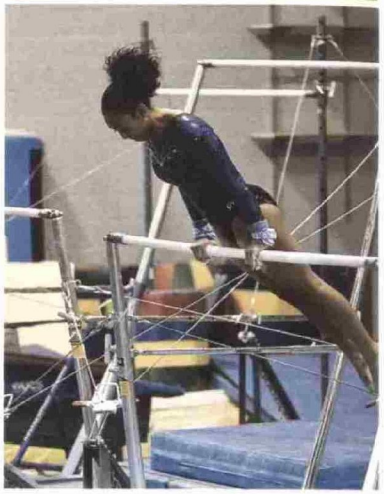


Putting on a show // Entertaining the crowd, Mindie Cuozzo (9) performs a whimsical routine to "Beauty and the Beast."









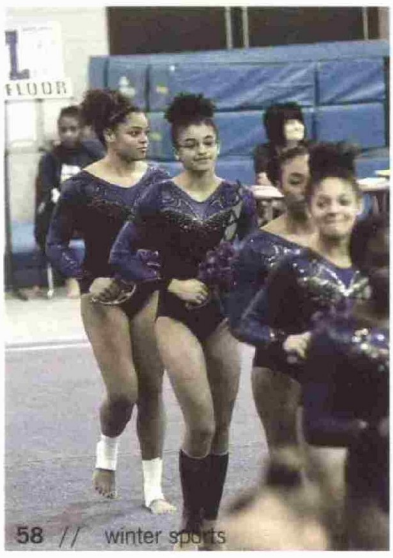
1. On point // On the uneven parallel bars, Cryst'n Morgan (12) shows perfect technique at the top of a giant swing. Her high-flying routine was a crowd favorite.

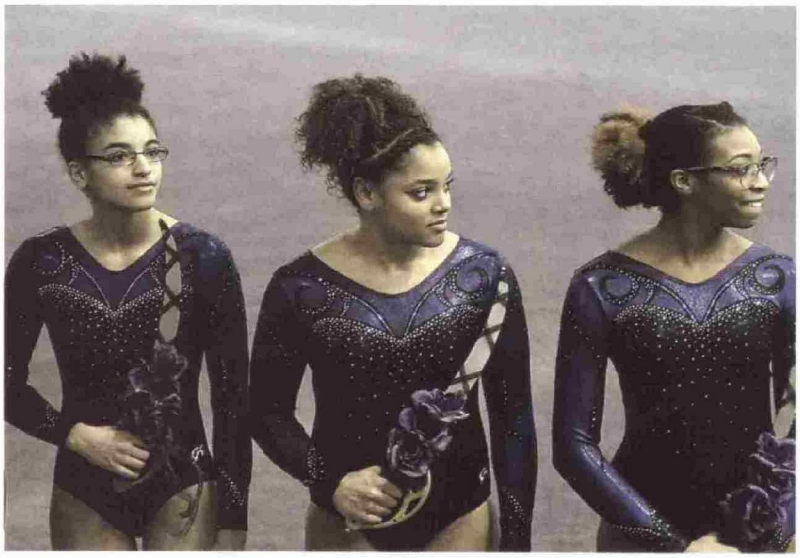
2. High-scoring // In her balance beam routine, Kylah Nicholson features a straddle jump, one of many high-level jumps. The judges awarded her appropriately with a score of 9.3.

3. In balance // As she performs on the balance beam, Amy Aponte (9) shows control and poise. Even simple poses can be challenging on a 4-inch wide beam.

4. Showing her strength // During her uneven bar routine, Kaniyah Pharms (12) prepares for a cast to handstand. This skill requires exceptional upper body strength.

gymnastics carries on special traditions





Gymnastics is a sport of beauty, including the special ceremony that begins each meet. The "march in" (at far left) is the traditional start to every gymnastics competition. After the march in, Miranda Cuozzo (12), Cryst'n Morgan (12) and Kylah Nicholson (11) await the calling of their names during the introduction of athletes prior to the competition. They are holding the "Pirate Sword," another tradition unique to the gymnastics team.

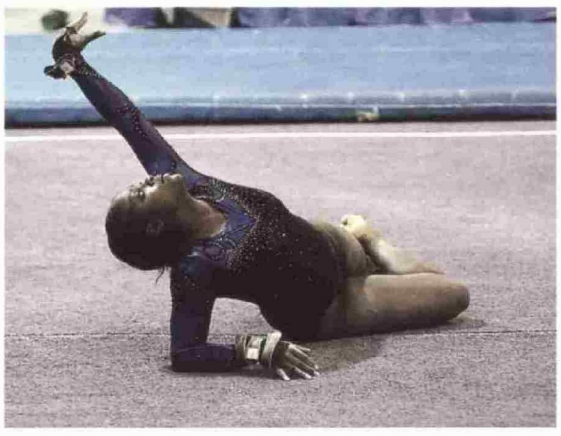
Bending over backwards // Performing her floor routine, Abby Smith (10) showcases many unique elements. Combining difficult tumbling with expressive dance, her routine was always entertaining, leading the team with scores consistently in the 9.0 range. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

gymnasts defy **gravity**

sophomore Abby Smith makes return to state competition

Abby Smith finished her sophomore year with a 2nd straight trip to the IHSAA State Finals, competing on the uneven bars and finishing 15th overall. Smith was excited to represent her team on her favorite apparatus. "I like the thrill of them," she said of the uneven bars, "and I like trying new combinations. I think I do well because it comes easy for me, and I enjoy doing bars, so I don't get tired of them." Smith's dedication proved inspiring to her teammates. "Every time I look over, she's always doing another bar routine," Mindie Cuozzo (9) said.

On the move // Leading into her dismount, Cheyenne Roberts (11) performs a unique high bar combination. Gymnasts are required to show skills on the high bar and the low bar while twisting and turning in all directions.



Full of grace // Combining intricate choreography and expressive combinations, Jadyn Lawson's floor routine is a crowd pleaser. Lawson's best quality is her beautiful dance technique.

High-flying // With her high-flying difficult skills, Briana Thomas (10) excels on the uneven parallel bars. She performs the high-level skills with perfect technique.

School pride // As the cheer team performs during the school song, they build a pyramid to show school spirit. // Photo by Z. Nickson

go Pirates go

Cheer squad makes its mark with determination and spirit

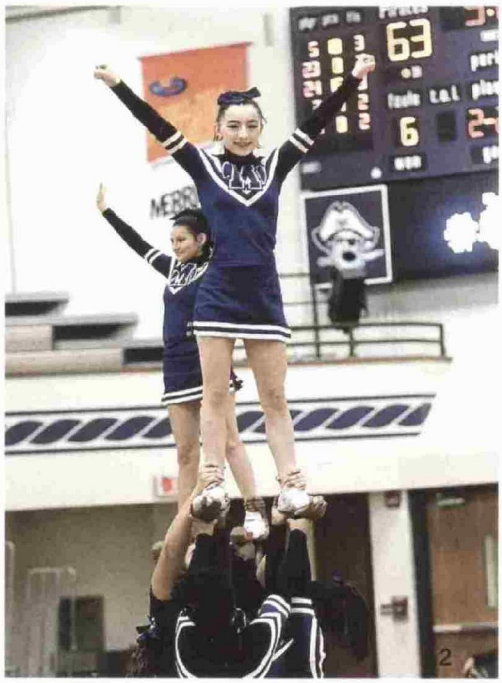
Cheerleading isn't just all fun and games. The cheerleading squad actually starts preparing in March of the previous school year and continues throughout the summer and the whole school year.

During the summer, the cheerleaders practiced almost every day to condition and perfect their stunting. "Summer practice was hard, challenging and very exhausting, but having these practices are very important due to the fact that it builds our endurance, and without it we wouldn't be able to do the stunts we do," Marissa Ford (9) said.

During the summer, the team also attended a camp at Holy Cross College and won numerous awards, including eight spirit awards, the Top Team award and Technical Excellence. The team also had 18 members receive All-American nominations.

"Cheer camp was a different experience and I was nervous at first, but it taught me a lot and helped me for the season. It was fun, and it helped me bond with the team more since I was new," Destiny Lilly (9) said.

Coach Govert could not have been more pleased with her squad. "I have coached cheerleading at Merrillville High School for 29 years, and this year ranks in my top 5 most memorable and enjoyable years," she said.



1. Time-out// With smiling faces, the team performs a hip-hop dance during a time-out. // Photo by I. Butts

2. Turn and pose// While performing extensions, Skye Skimehorn (10) and Taylor Ballard (12) smile at the crowd during a quarter break. // Photo by T.DiGrispino

3. Jumping to the beat // Moving to one of the chants, Zaria Lucious (10) cheers during a girls' basketball game. "I felt so energetic and that's actually one of my favorite cheers," she said. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

4. High in the sky // Flying in the air, Tori Holst (12) does a twist basket during the playing of the school's fight song. // Photo by A. Robinson

5. Pirate spirit// Running with the flags, Aaliyah Wright (10) and Antonia Blair (10) help raise school spirit during a timeout. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

2018% Done

7. Rainy games// During a rainy night, Maxwell Govert (12), Tori Holst (12), Diamond Morris (12), Kaylin Jones (12), and Taylor Ballard (12) pose during the Lake Central football game.

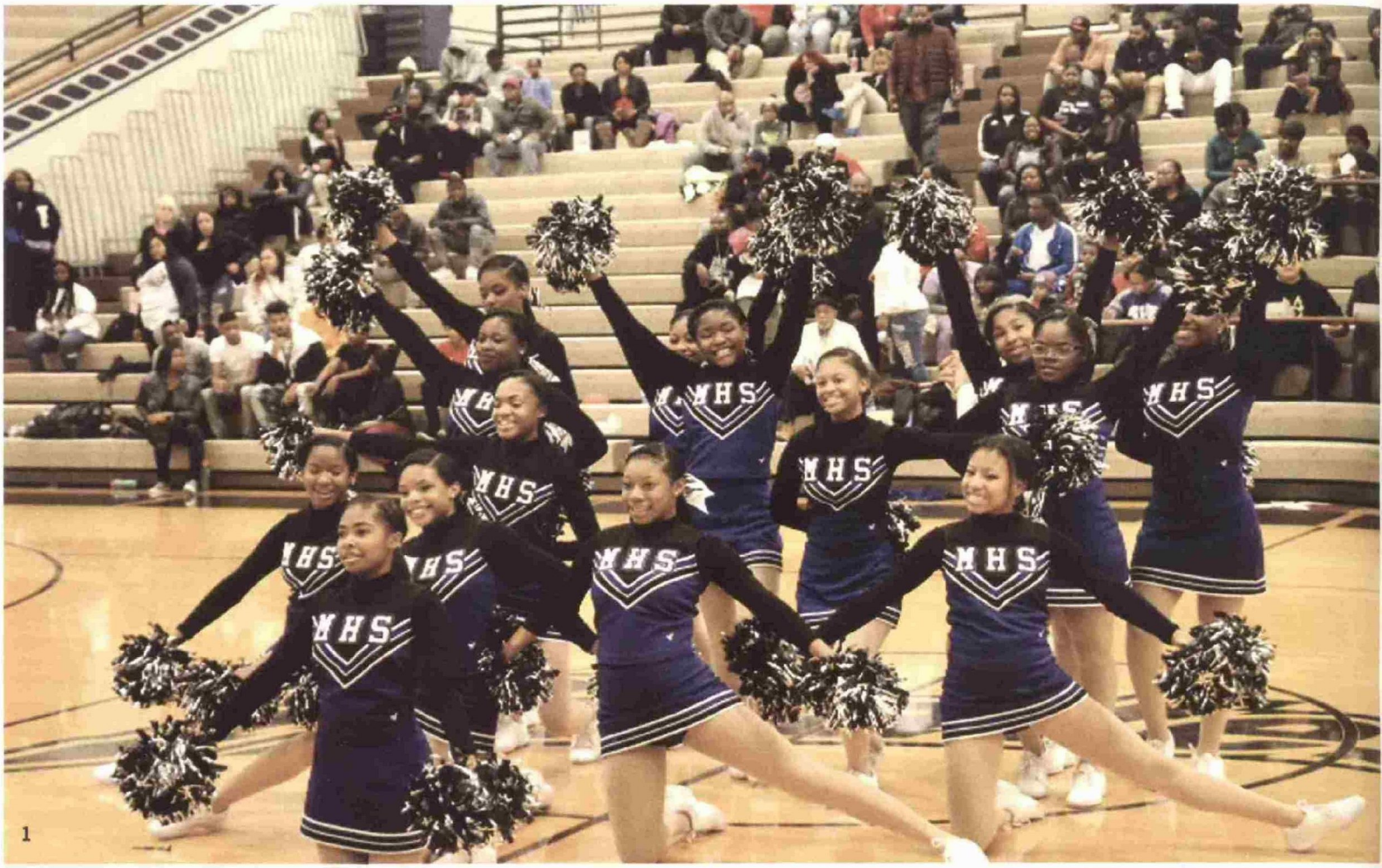
"I'm sad, but I'm also happy because I get to start a new chapter in my life, I'm sad because I'm not gonna have all of the same bonds that I had when I was in high school." - Taylor Ballard

"I'm having a lot of mixed emotions about the season coming to an end because this sport taught me how to be determined, so I will miss cheerleading." - Diamond Morris

"It's a bittersweet moment because it was a fun experience and it's ending even though it's been a long four years, but at the same time we are also moving on to something else like college." - Kaylin Jones

"I have a lot of mixed emotions because I'm happy it's ending, but I know I might miss it." - Tori Holst

"It's a bittersweet feeling because cheerleading has done nothing but good things for me and has taught me lessons about life that I can use when it's all said and done." - Maxwell Govert



1. Final counts // Keeping up the spirit, the team does the final pose of their routine during halftime at a boys' basketball game. // Photo by I. Butts

Dance to the music

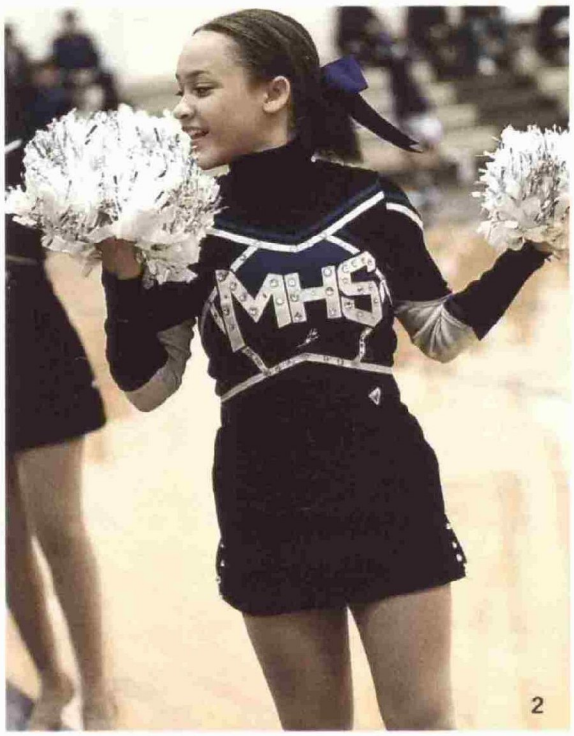
The team brings spirit with their moves.

The dance team is used to performing in front of Merrillville fans at football and basketball games, but this year included a special performance for the girls.

A highlight for the dance team was when they performed at The United Center during a Bulls halftime game. The team was invited to do the 24-hour challenge, so the team learned the dance that night and then performed the next day.

"The experience was fun because we got to see how the real world in dance goes and how it feels to perform in front of hundreds of people," Ke'leica Junigan (12) said.

The team practiced every Tuesday and Wednesday throughout the week.



2. Bringing the moves // Performing a pre-game dance, Javiera Gamble (9) shows off her moves before the basketball game. " I get really nervous when it starts but once I get out there my energy fades, it's like dance makes me confident," Gamble said. //Photo by I. Butts

3. School spirit // Dancing with the band, the team performed during the first school walk around for the football season. The walk around tradition helped raise spirit during the school day. // Photo by A. Avery

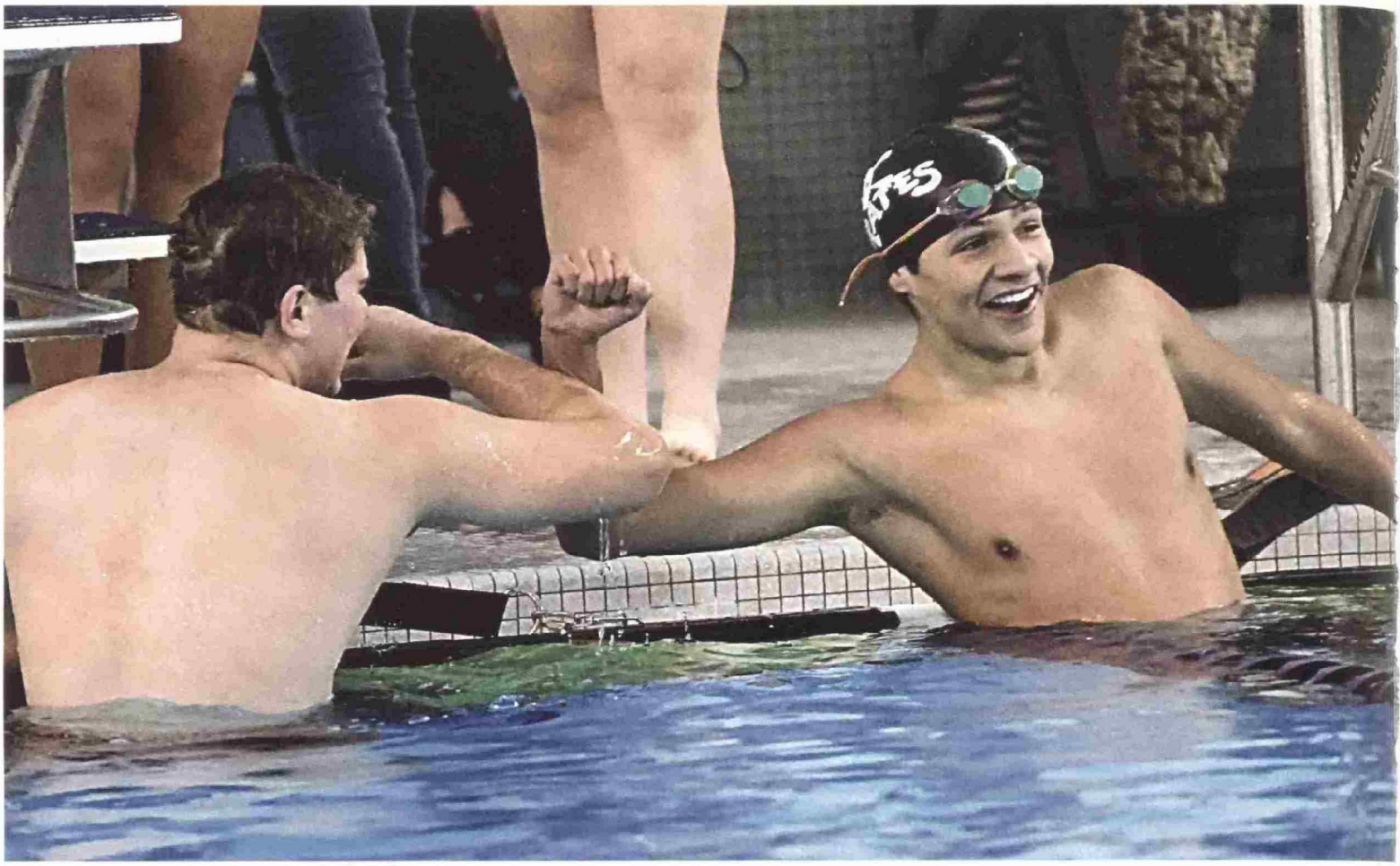
4. Pre-game laughter // With smiling faces, Razariah Combs (10) and Heavenly Bullard (9) dance during the pregame ritual. "I was just having fun and enjoying myself," Combs said. "My favorite thing is when they call the starting five and the crowd gets hyped while we're doing our ripples," Bullard said. // Photo by I. Butts

5. Can't stop the feeling // Celebrating their special performance with the children, the team wears a decoration on their heads before the game. The girls traditionally dance at the half-time performance with the kids from the clinic. // Photo by Z. Nickson

kids camp

6. Hit the move // Teaching the children, Alyssa Hunt (12) helps the kids during the dance clinic. "It's fun and makes you happy to see all the other little girls happy," she said.

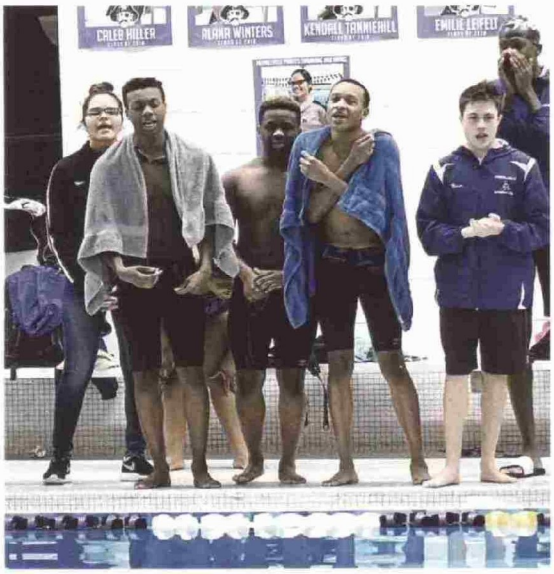
7. Strike a pose // Posing in a dance, Tiarra Jones (12) practices a routine with the children. " I enjoy working with the kids. Dance is a passion of mine and it meant a lot for me to share it with them," she said.



Taking Pirate pride // Finishing with sportsmanship, Tyler Jasso (12) congratulates his opponent after a freestyle event // Photos by T. DiGrispino.

oxygen is overrated

Swimmers, divers enjoy tight bonds, encouragement

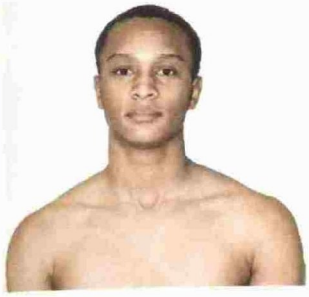


Hyping up the family // As they rest up for the next event, Olivia Taylor (12), Brian Dilosa (10), Josiah Alford (11), Caleb Hiller (12), Mason Martisauskas (10) and Joenathan Smith (11) cheer on their teammates.

A family atmosphere definitely surrounded the swimming and diving team this season. Everyone on the team motivated each other in and out of the water. The team often had pasta parties where they went to a teammate's house to eat and play games. These pasta parties helped the swimmers get to know each other and form a stronger bond with the team. "I really enjoyed my swim season with my team because I feel like we're family," Mason Martisauskas (10) said.

Everyone on the team knew each other well, and helped out in small ways, such as giving rides to practices. Before meets the team got hyped up and motivated each other, and the captains and coaches offered pep talks in the locker-room. Consequently, the team showed improvement throughout the season. During the first round of sectionals, 97 percent of the team set personal records. "We stuck by each other, good and bad times, and I'm just grateful I was a part of it," Brian Dilosa (10) said.

What motivates you?



"My brother Josh motivated me to join and it looked fun."

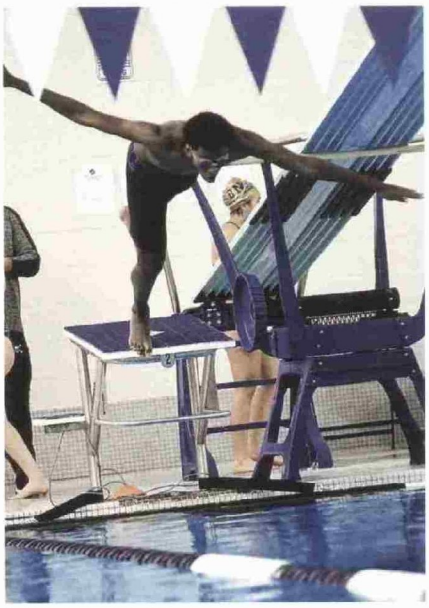
Caleb Hiller, 12

"It's an independent sport, so you get out what you put in."

Alex Navarro, 12

"I like swimming and I enjoy being with my teammates."

Da'trell Williams, 11



your view from THE BLOCK

"I feel a burst of energy and I hold my breath as far as I can."

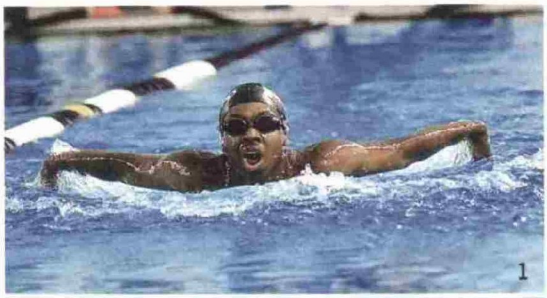
Joenathan Smith (11)

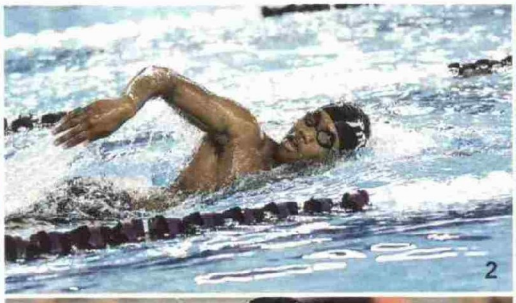
"I feel nervous right before I get onto the block, but when I jump off the block my nervousness goes away."

Lorenzo Espinoza (10)

"I feel nervous but determined and I hope that my adrenaline kicks in when I enter the water."

Wesley Davis (11)





1. Flying to the finish // Coming up for air, Brian Dilosa (10) pushes himself in the 100 butterfly. In addition to the butterfly, Dilosa also earned a spot on the 200-free relay team, which advanced to the sectional finals.

2. 50 yards at a time // While taking a stroke, Kendall Tanniehill (12) talks to himself to get focused during the event. "What makes me swim is the fact that I like the water," Tanniehill said.

3. Testing the water // Focusing on new goals, Cameron Louthan (11) sets a personal time for the butterfly. "While in the water, I think of the times I want to get," Louthan said.

4. Keeping his focus // As he strives for victory, Edmund Gunn (12) takes a stroke in the breaststroke. "As I swim my event, I remember what Coach Harvoth taught me," Gunn said, recalling the advice to "start hard, turn smart, finish fast."

5. I swim therefore IM // Filled with adrenaline, Mason Martisauskas (10) passes his opponents in the 200 individual medley. Martisauskas qualified for the sectional finals in the 200 breaststroke.

6. Determination // Motivating himself, Justin Jackson (11) swims the breaststroke with a target in mind. "I swim to get past my goals and set new goals to get past," Jackson said.

Photos by T. DiGrispino

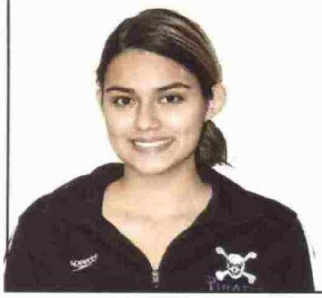
why swim?

"I picked swimming to try something new and learn a life skill that's important and challenge myself."

Alana Winters, 12

"I swim because I enjoy my team, the competition, and the drive of determination that comes with it. I also love how swimming is exciting and peaceful at the same time."

Janaye Thomas, 11



"When I was little my parents wanted me to do a sport so I tried swimming and ended up loving it."

Prysma Valdivia, 12

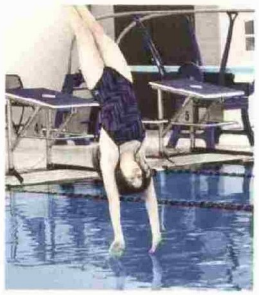
Why dive?

"I wanted to dive because it seemed more interesting and different than swimming and I wanted to be active over the winter."

Maria Guardiola, 10

"I picked diving because it's fun and enjoyable for me."

Breanna Buggs, 10



"I joined diving because during summer school we were allowed to go on the diving boards, and I always thought it would be something cool to do."

Jaden LaRue, 11

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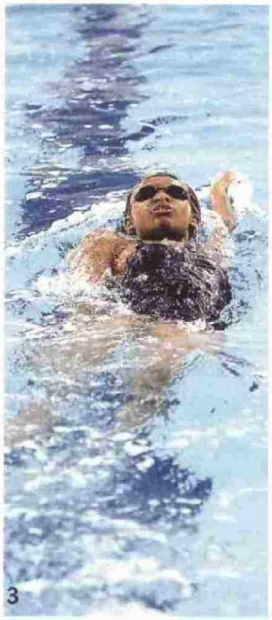

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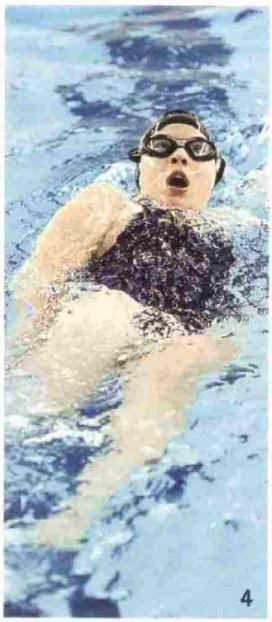

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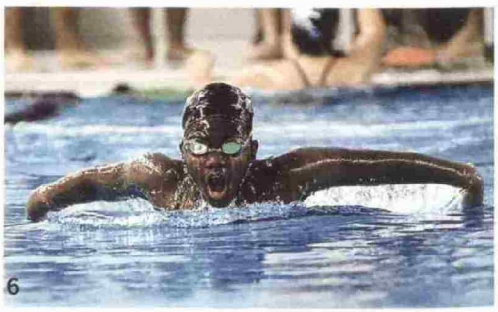


6

1. Just keep swimming // Pulling herself to the wall, Clarke Halliburton (11) finishes a freestyle event.

2. Eyeing the finish // Filled with determination, Prysma Valdivia (12) nears the end of the 100 butterfly.

3. Focusing on the flags // Barely making a splash, Paige Raspberry (10) glides through the water to finish her 100 backstroke event.

4. Counting tiles // Focusing on taking first place, Emilie Leifelt (12) kicks hard during the backstroke phase of the 200 individual medley event.

5. Shooting to the finish //Focusing on dropping time, Morgan Turner (10) competes in the 200 individual medley.

6. Flying through the water // During the butterfly section, Aminah Samba (10) takes a stroke as she starts hard in the 200 medley relay.

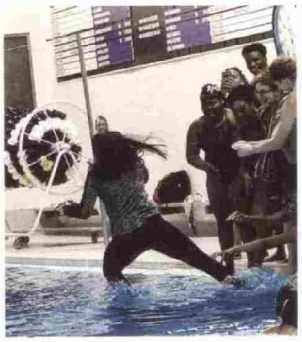
Photos by T. DiGrispino

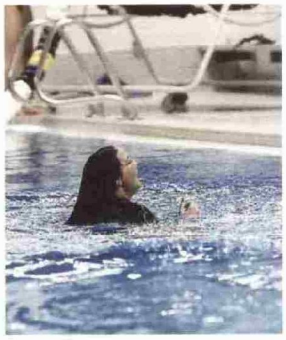
Support from the sidelines // Cheering on the swimmers, Maria Guardiola (10), Jaden LaRue (11), Aaliyah Perry (10), Breanna Buggs (10) and Leilani Cruz (11) motivate their teammates to finish strong. // Photos by Tom DiGrispino.

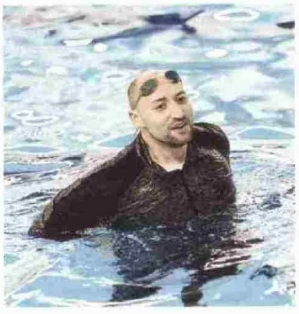
life in the **fast lane**

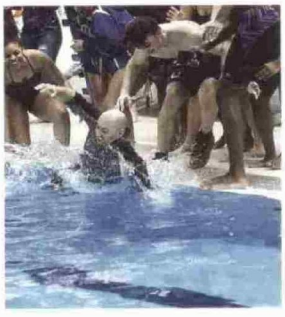
Swimmers, divers enjoy the traditions, competitions

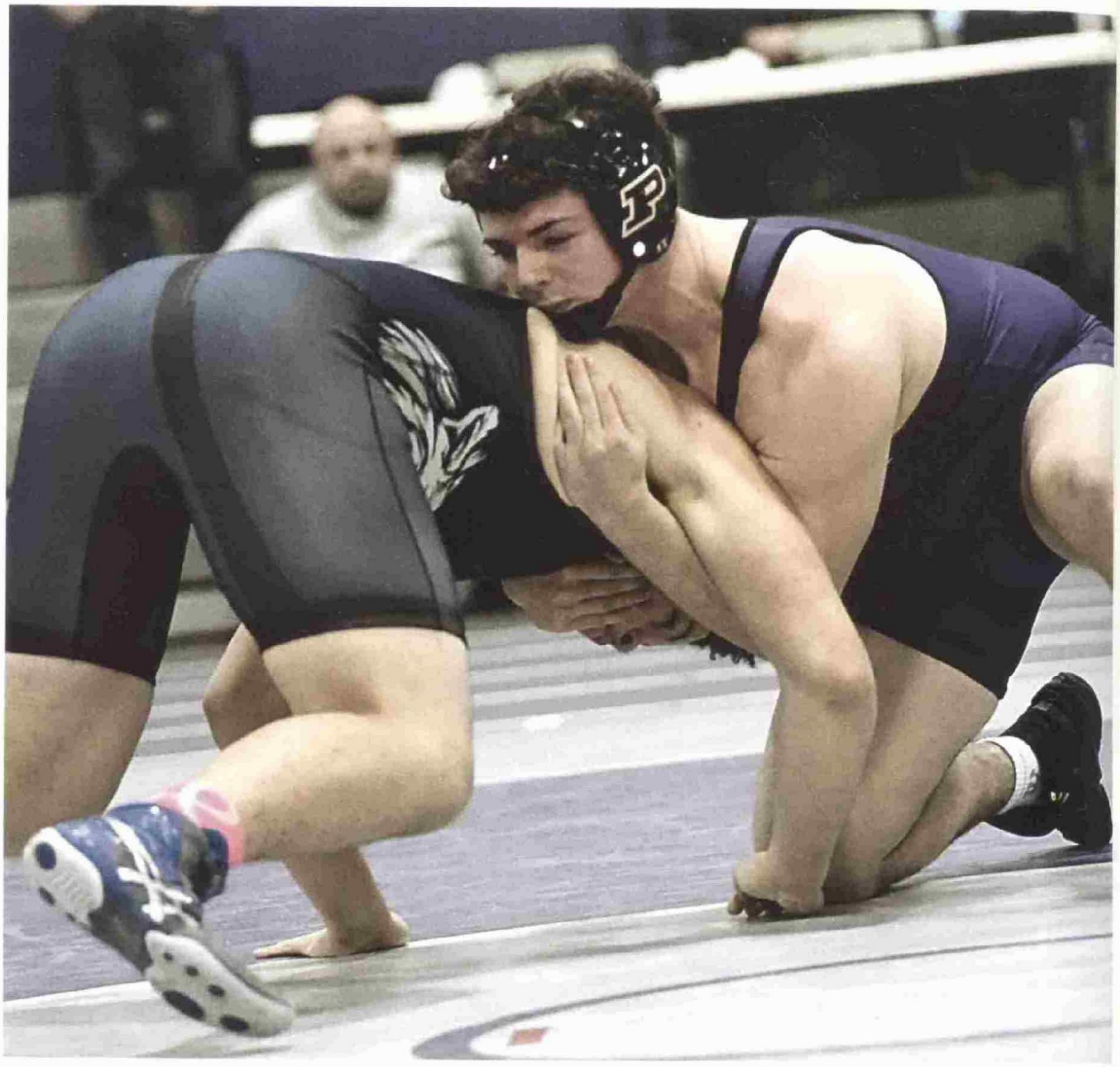
The swimming and diving team has many traditions that have been passed down through the years. One highlight comes on Senior Night when the team pushes the coaches into the pool after the meet. "Every season I look forward to pushing the coaches into the pool because I like to see the looks on their faces when they come up from the water," Prysma Valdivia (12) said. The tradition continued this year when the coaches were dunked after the team took a victory against Wheeler. After the splashdown, the team ate and then went into the locker room where the seniors received special gifts. After a rough season, the team ended on a positive note in sectionals as eight girls set personal records and several qualified for the final round – Valdivia in the 500 freestyle, Emilie Leifelt (12) in the 100 breaststroke and the freestyle relay of Leifelt, Janaye Thomas (11), Paige Raspberry (10) and Valdivia.







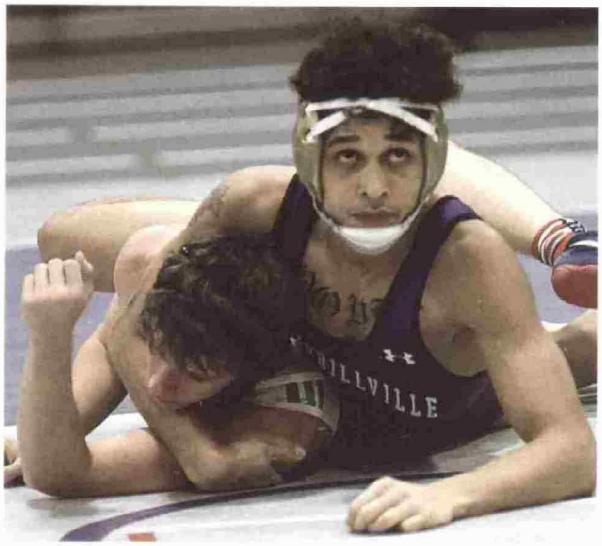




In control// En route to a victory, Brandon Streck grasps hold of Michigan City wrestler John Wilcher. Wrestling at 220, Streck pinned Wilcer in just 0:32 leading the team to a victory on Senior Night. Streck won the semistate title and finished a close runner-up for the state championship. // Photo by T. DiGrisipino

taking it to the **mat**

Streck leads Pirates with runner-up finish at state meet



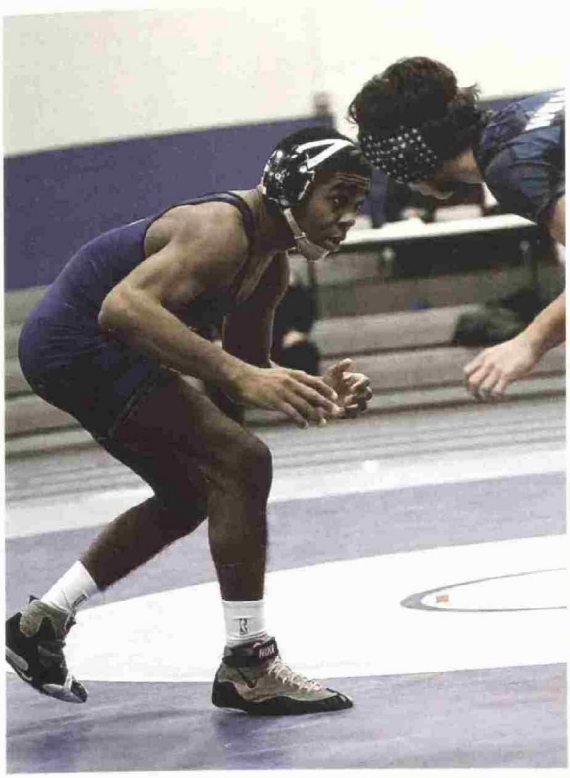
Pinned down // As he pins his opponent, Malik Hoover waits for the officials call. Hoover advanced to the state tournament after a fourth-place finish at semistate.

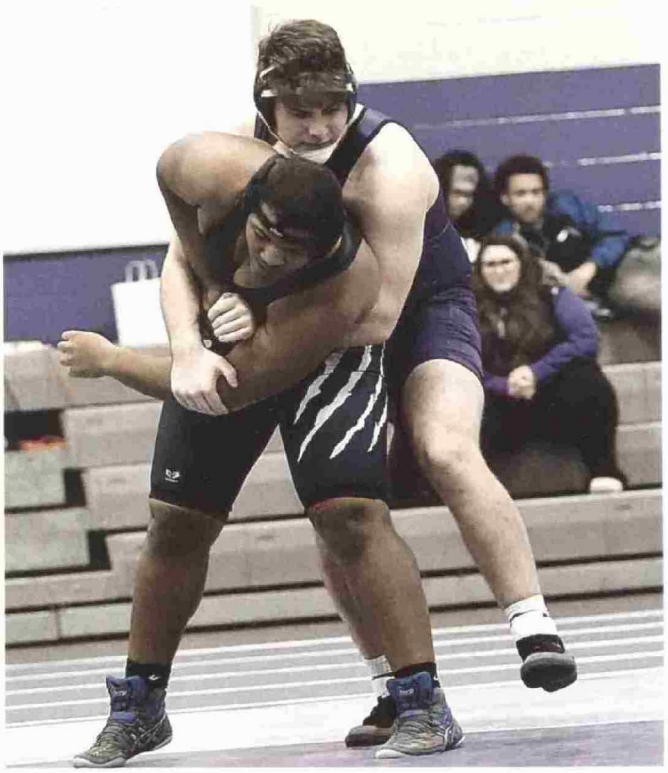
After a dominating season, senior Brandon Streck fell just short of a state championship. "He did the best he could in the situation he was in. The kid he wrestled was No. 1 in the nation, and he pushed him to the limit," Coach David Maldonado said.

Wrestling at 220 pounds, Streck finished his career with a 33-2 record, losing in a fall to Lawrenceburg's undefeated Mason Parris. Streck, who will wrestle at Indiana University, was joined at state by fellow senior Malik Hoover, who lost in the preliminaries.

The Pirates finished another successful season, winning a 14th straight sectional title with eight first-place finishes. The team finished second at regionals, with 12 wrestlers advancing to the semistate competition.

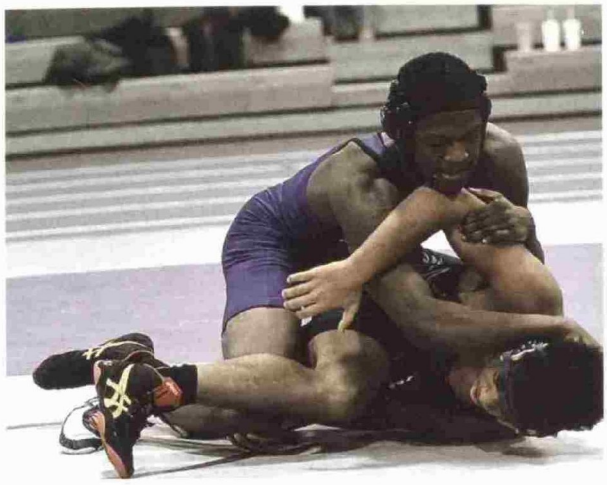
Another highlight was winning the team title in the Lake County Tournament, where seven wrestlers took first-place finishes.

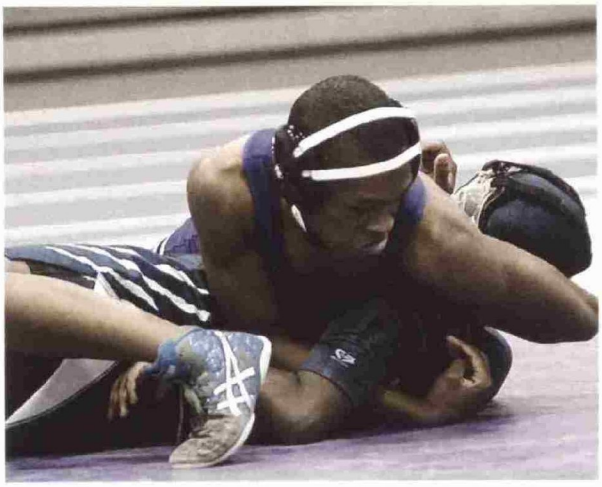




Stare down // While facing his opponent, Ah'zsur Ursery (12) looks for a chance to get the upperhand during his final home match of the season. Ursery, wrestling at 138 pounds, pinned Zach Kizziar of Michigan City in 1:49. Ursery took first place at sectionals and was runner-up at regionals. // Photo by T. DiGrispino.

A touch hold // On his way to victory, Anthony Atria (11) grabs a hold of his opponent. Wrestling at heavyweight, Atria pinned his opponent Oscar Potts in 1:45 as the Pirates defeated Michigan City 78-3. Atria was the sectional and regional champion.





Senior success // Pinning his opponent, Tyjonn Lockett scores a victory at 182 pounds. Lockett finished with a high school career varsity record of 76-33. In his senior season, Lockett won a sectional title and second-place finish at regionals.

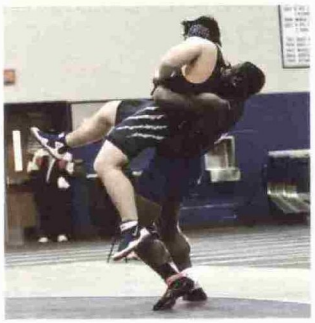
An inspirational debut // At Merrillville's Senior Night, Justin Setzer wrestled in his first varsity match where he got the win at 126 pounds. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

basics of wrestling

Half nelson

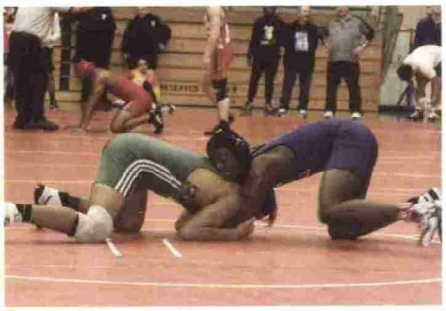
To win the sectional title, Aaron Griggs (12) sinks in the half nelson. Over 75 wrestlers participated in sectionals, which were held at East Chicago Central High School. // Photo by R. Atkins

Lift and bump



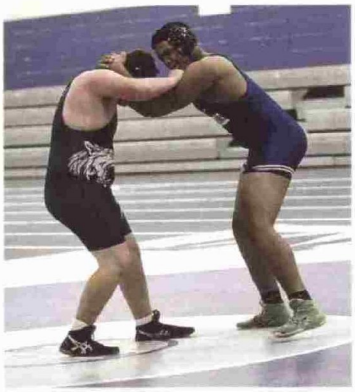
To score, Dennis Weston (12) does the lift-and-bump maneuver to take down a Michigan City 195-pounder during the Senior Night dual. // Photo by T. DiGirispino

Snap down



En route to winning the sectional title, Tyjonn Lockett (12) bounces his opponents' head off the mat during the second round of sectionals. // Photo by R. Atkins

Collar tie up



Getting into position, Ryan Atkins-Frazier (12) looks to score against Michigan City's heavyweight during Senior Night. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

boys' varsity basketball

Head Coach: TJ Lux **Front Row:** Christian Smith, Will Fulton, Robert Sanders, Xavier Alston, Nolen Thomas, Jamal Anderson; **Second Row:** Cameron Wright, Braedan Stubbs, Darryon Banders, Lavari Ruffin, Johnny Bernard; **Third Row:** Jaylon Holmes, Rishard Balkcom, Nakia Chinn; **Back Row:** Coach David Pritt, Coach Cliff Hughes, Head Coach T.J. Lux, Coach Bo Patton, Coach Jake Raspopovich.

	Us	Them
Hammond	92	80
South Bend Riley	56	69
Andrean	71	54
Fort Wayne Snider	70	50
McCutcheon	59	78
North Central	52	69
New Haven	64	72
Lighthouse CPA	73	60
Columbia City	51	36
Indianapolis Scecina	61	54
Hammond Morton	67	44
Chesterton	76	56
Crown Point	43	41
Munster	61	67
Portage	65	28
F.W. Carroll	43	60
Valparaiso	57	57
Lowell	86	53
Lake Central	66	56
LaPorte	66	55
Warsaw	62	45
Michigan City	79	66
Hobart	53	31
Penn	70	64
Sectionals		
Chesterton	80	59
Valparaiso	43	46

boys' jv basketball

Head Coach: Bo Patton
Front Row: Kolby Ford, Eric Goodes, Keon Thompson, Christian Hemphill; **Second Row:** Juwan Bandy, Tylee Williams, Itez Mayo, Mark Leon, Austin Powell; Third row: Aahric Whitehead, Eric January, Isaiah Maynard; **Back Row:** Head Coach Bo Patton, Coach David Pritt.

freshman boys' basketball

Head Coach: Connor Buxton
Front Row: Dylan Coty, Savion Miller, Londell Magee; **Second Row**: Quintin Ireland, Edward Akins, Erik Chaves, Jakobe Jones, Reece Echarry; **Third Row:** Damon Joshua, Brendan Rogers, Devin Sanders, Aaron Williams; **Back Row:** Kejuan Mitchell, Head Coach Connor Buxton, Micah Gholson.

girls' varsity basketball

Head Coach: Amy Govert
First Row: Cailynn Dilosa, Torri Miller, Kennedy Tanniehill, Amari Johnson, Amani Alvarez; **Second Row:** Denae Joshua, Ma'Kaela Patterson, Myjae Armstrong, Brittney Wiliams; **Back Row:** Head Coach Amy Govert, Shelby Harmon, Armani Cole, and Assistant Coach Kelly Kratz.
Not Pictured: Micah Grady, Shekinah Thomas.

	Us	Them
S.B. St. Joseph	29	67
Bishop Noll	69	72
Andrean	43	30
Carmel	24	74
North Ridge	30	59
Valparasio	42	73
Lake Central	28	51
Elkhart Memorial	47	52
Laporte	26	45
Michigan City	52	34
Hammond Morton	57	60
Hammond	67	41
E.C. Central	27	74
LaPorte	28	47
Dekalb	37	49
New Haven	67	28
Chesterton	18	58
Penn	25	65
Crown Point	36	67
Hobart	65	23
Portage	40	59
Lowell	67	50
Sectionals		
KV	52	66

girls' jv basketball

Head Coach: Darrion Patton
Front Row: Alexia Williams, Cailynn Dilosa, Micah Grady, Christina Smith, Shaiana Norwood, and Lauren Gunnell; **Second Row:** Taira Amisu, Amaya Howard, Ariana Bandy, Aaniejah Crim, Michelle Gunnell; **Back Row:** Coach Darrian Patton, Janiyah Russell, Djarae Boykin, Shekinah Thomas, Emmani Ellis, Coach Chloe Pridgen.

cheerleading

Head coach: Lori Govert
Assistant coach: Maddie Beason
Front Row: Taylor Ballard, Diamond Morris; **Second Row:** Skye Skimehorn, Antonia Blair, Kaylin Jones, Maxwell Govert, Reginald Carter, Tori Holst, Zaria Lucious, Sydney Jackson; **Back Row:** Ashley Williams, Aaliyah Wright, Amaya Butler, Jaylen Glass, Aliyah McLain, Emilio Salas, Amaya Kirk, Destiny Lilly, Marissa Ford

boys' swimming & diving

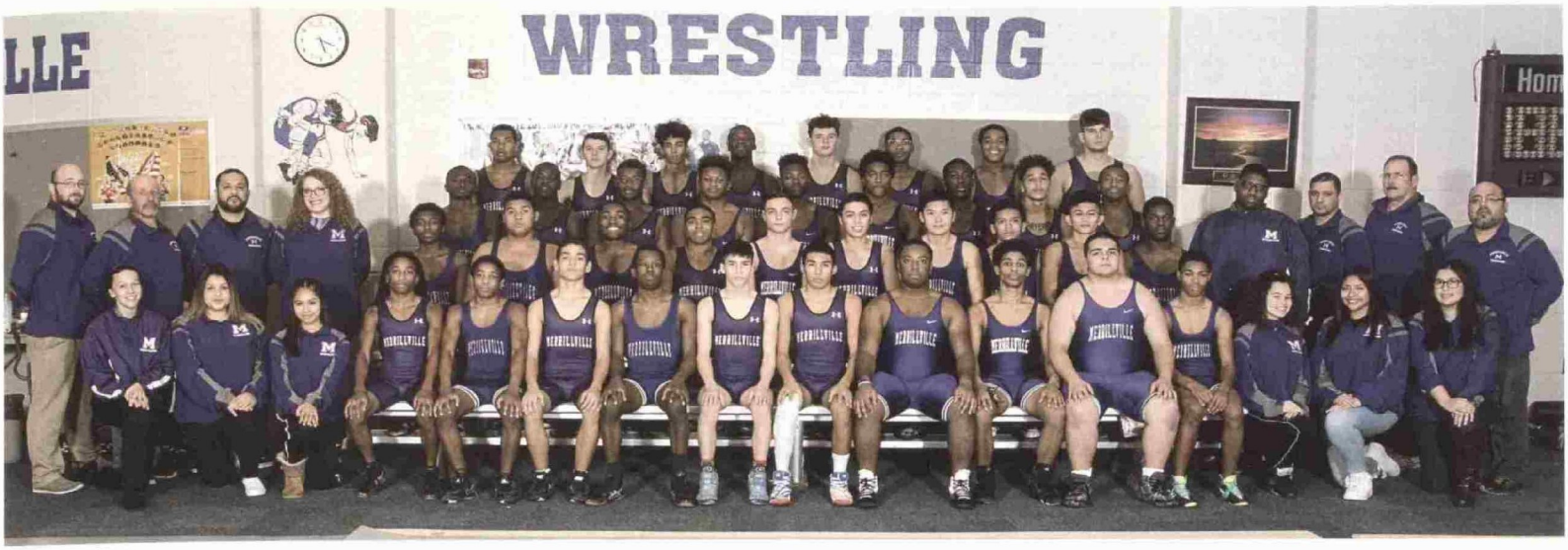
Head Coach: Josh Harvoth
Front Row: Assistant Amanda Banashak, Manager Meagan Thomas, Cameron Louthan, Mason Martisauskas, Jaydon Wilbon; **Second Row:** Coach Jeremy Boyer, Head Coach Josh Harvoth, Assistant Coach Pere Dorsuleski, Wesley Davis, Lorenzo Espinoza, Lex Mercer, Brian Dilosa, Josiah Alford; **Back Row:** Da'Trell Williams, Edmund Gunn, Justin Jackson, Tyler Jasso, Kendall Tanniehill, Alex Navarro.

	Us	Them
Portage	103	82
Rensselaer Central	71.5	108.
Lake Central	52	5
Highland	73	134
Hobart	60	110
Crown Point	53	119
Griffith	136	130
KV	81	33
Lowell	63	98
Wheeler	83	120
Valparaiso	54	93
Michigan City	113	125
LaPorte	57	66
Bishop Noll	131	116
Chesterton	39	26
DAC Meet	8th	145
Sectionals		
Chesterton	8th	

girls' swimming & diving

Head Coach: Josh Harvoth
Front Row: Assistant Amanda Banashak, Manager Meagan Thomas, Andrea Tapia, Darlenys Lantigua, Makayla Jones, Iysis Perez, Maria Guardiola; **Second Row:** Coach Jeremy Boyer, Head Coach Josh Harvoth, Assistant Coach Pere Dorsuleski, Aniyah Lopez, Leilani Cruz, Aminah Samba, Brookelyn Burks; **Third Row:** Alana Winters, Aaliyah Perry, Jasmin Creal, Clarke Halliburton, Janaye Thomas, Laquiana Jones; **Back Row:** Fatou Cisse, Paige Raspberry, Alexus Palomo, Prysma Valdivia, Emilie Leifelt, Jesse Talley, Breanna Buggs.

	Us	Them
Lowell	33	152
Chesterton	33	153
Portage	59	127
Rensselaer Central	52	130
Lake Central	31	155
Highland	63	118
Hobart	55	125
Crown Point	34	151
Griffith	103	65
KV	68	115
Wheeler	99	78
Valparaiso	36	150
Michigan City	67	67
DAC Meet	8th	
LaPorte	51	134
Bishop Noll	126	51
Sectionals		
LaPorte	9th	



wrestling

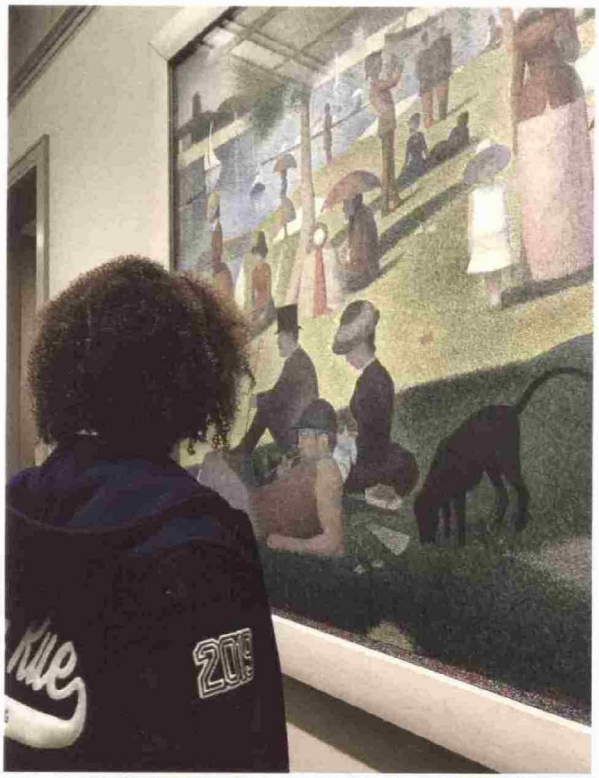
Head Coach: David Maldonado
First Row: Emily Lesich, Monique Duque, Bea Tamo, Malik Hall, Alexander Robinson, Aleksander Pejovski, Justin Setzer, Martin Cruz, Juan Maldonado, Keylian Brown, Elijah Sandridge, Izaac Garcia, Cameron Williams, Malynna Cruz, Evelyn Hernandez, Leah Mallon; **Second Row:** Coach Tom Kelly, Coach Gene Bierman, Coach Paul Maldonado, Courtney Wilson, Jerry Walker, Jevonte Williams, Ali Abdullah, Ah'zsur Ursery, Anthony Rivera, Jacob Maldonado, Austin Vo, Tyler Turner, Yoshi Nangin, Donete Holbrook, Jordan Sonnier, Coach Bobby Maldonado, Coach Joe Atria, Head Coach David Maldonado; **Third Row:** Deante Windrom, Dennis Weston, Jonathan Sims, Christopher Miller, Drew Bailey, Feerahs Dawson, Seyi Akinwumi, Malik Hoover, Aaron Griggs; **Back Row:** KeShawn Lilly, Jason Streck, Devin Pope, Tyjonn Lockett, Brandon Streck, Irvin Pirtle, Ryan Atkins, Anthony Atria.

	Us	Them
Valparaiso	62	9
LaPorte	46	25
Hammond	57	15
Lafayette Jeff	51	12
Knox	78	6
Wawasee	25	41
Portage	43	22
Hammond Morton	75	3
Plymouth	65	8
Penn	65	6
Highland	72	0
Harrison	35	30
Chesterton	20	43
Rich East	1st	
Mishawaka	9th	
Crown Point	31	26
Lake Central	55	9
DAC	3rd	
Michigan City	78	3
Sectionals		
East Chicago	1st	
Regionals		
Hobart	2nd	
Semi-State		
East Chicago	5th	
State Finals		
Bankers Life Fieldhouse	Streck/2nd	

gymnastics

Head Coach: Diane Roberts
Front Row: Amy Aponte, Mindie Cuozzo, Abby Smith, Miranda Cuozzo, Briana Thomas; **Second Row:** Cheyenne Roberts, Jayden Lawson, Cryst'n Morgan, Kaylah Nicholson, Gaby Aponte, Gabby Malave; **Back Row:** Coach Bethany Roberts, Coach Nick Roberts, Head Coach Diane Roberts, Kaniyah Pharms, Coach Nancy Phillips, Coach Valerie Bly, Coach Amy Aponte

	Us	Them
Hobart	107.15	96.15
Lake Central	106.375	103.225
Michigan City	106.375	101.575
Ft. Wayne	6th	
LaPorte	108.525	90.575
Portage	2nd	110.475
Crown Point	107.375	108.875
Chesterton	108.15	111.95
DAC Championship	5th	
Sectionals		
at Chesterton	5th	
Regionals		
at Valparaiso	Smith/5th bars	
State Finals		
at Ball State	Smith/15th bars	



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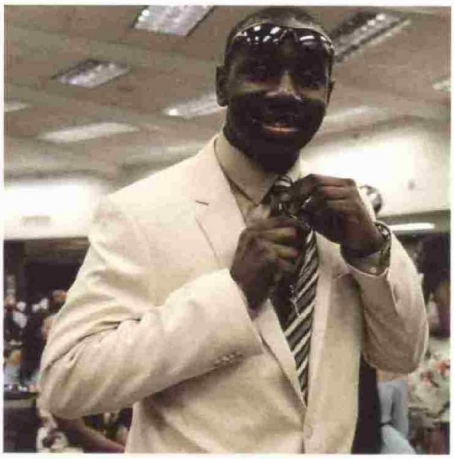

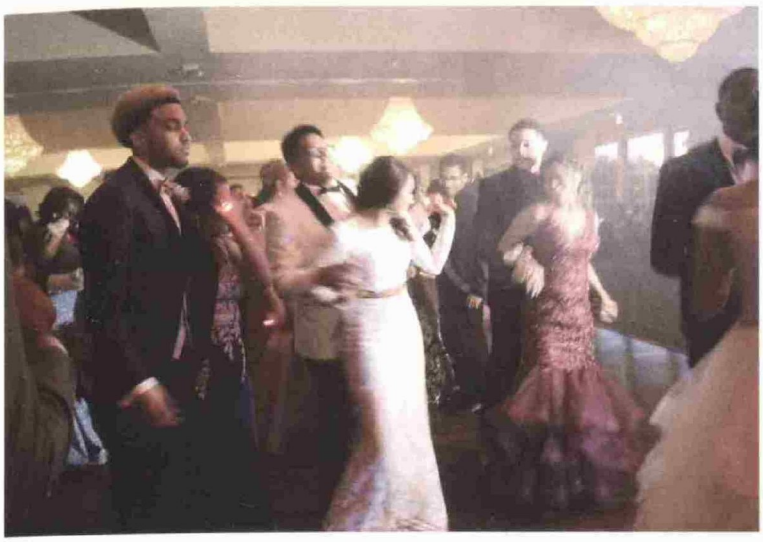

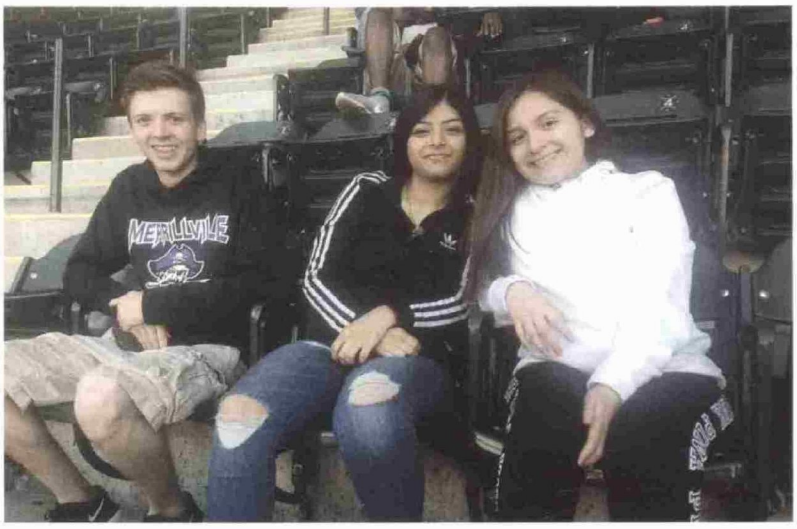

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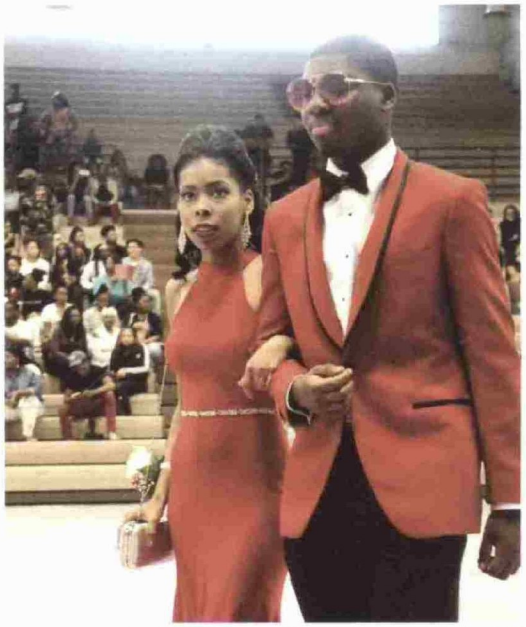


Moving Forward

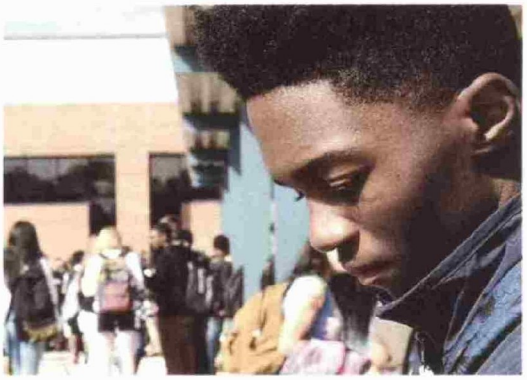
Long live the runners
May their legs carry them to victory
A future so bright

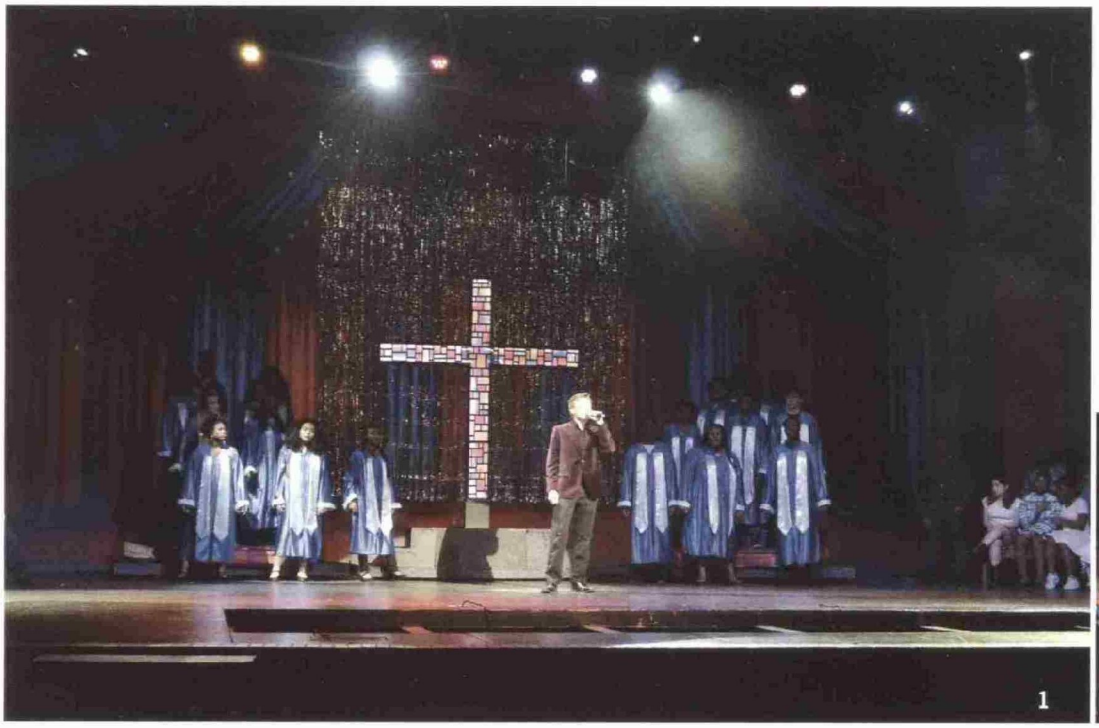
Long live the scholars
The students that learn all day
And study at night

Fair rest to the halls, lockers and desk
The cafeteria, homework, the stress

A farewell to high school for seniors
And to the future a warm hello

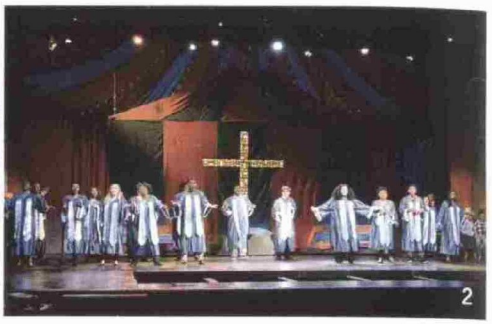
// Ja'Leah Walker





1. Last Chance Salvation // As the church wraps up its last revival, the Angels and the Rev. Jonas Nightingale perform their final song, "Last Chance Salvation," before they pack up their tent.

2. Rise Up! // During the opening of the musical, the Angels of Mercy and Jonas Nightengale, Lucas Reinhart (11), sing their opening song "Rise Up."



take that leap of *faith*

Students lend their voice to send spiritual message in spring musical

As most of the students were getting adjusted to the third trimester, the theater kids of Merrillville High began preparing for the annual spring musical. This year was a gospel-themed musical, "Leap of Faith," by Glenn Slater and Janus Cercone.

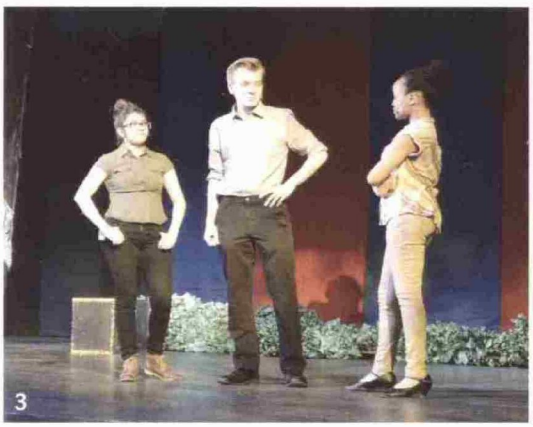
Being the star of the show can be a lot of hard work, but having people encourage you can really help boost your motivation.

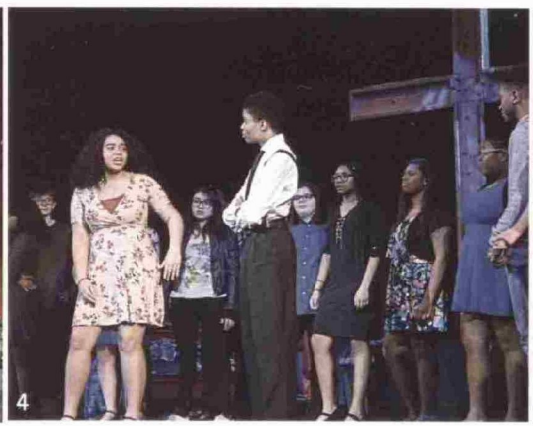
"I never had a role like this or had to sing gospel/rock, so I felt a lot of pressure. But that pressure helped push me to do the best job I could do," Lucas Reinhart (11). "When I got the hang of things, I had a really fun time."

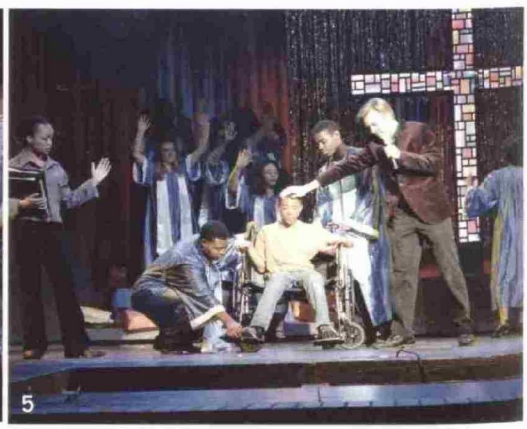
3. Fox in the Henhouse // Meeting the county sheriff, Aniya Edwards (11) for the first time, Jonas, Lucas Reinhart (11), and Sam, Jasmine Jaramillo, (12), perform "Fox in the Henhouse."

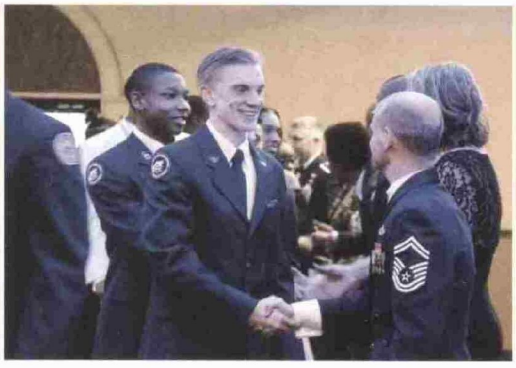
4. Are You on the Bus? // Arguing about the reliability of Jonas Nightengale, Ornella and Isaiah Sturdevant, Nicole Howell (12) and John Grace Jr. (12), sing "Are You on the Bus?"

5. If Your Faith is Strong Enough // Portraying Jonas Nightengale, Lucas Reinhart (11) "heals" Jake McGowan, played by Terry Thomas (an MIS student) as the church choir sings "If Your Faith is Strong Enough," wowing the audience during a heart-warming moment.









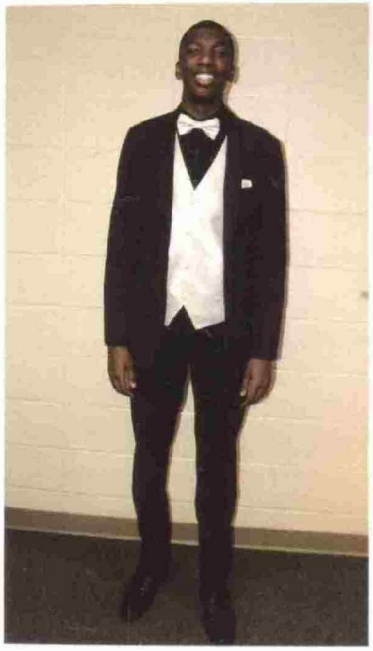
enchanted evening

While many students begin prepping for prom, the AFJROTC starts their preparations for their annual Military Ball. The ball celebrates achievements of the cadets enrolled in the ROTC. The event featured a receiving line, gourmet meal and dancing. It is a special event the cadets look forward to each year.

1. Evening Speech // Reading her prepared speech, Treasure Green (12) discusses the history of the AFJROTC. // Photos by I. Johnson

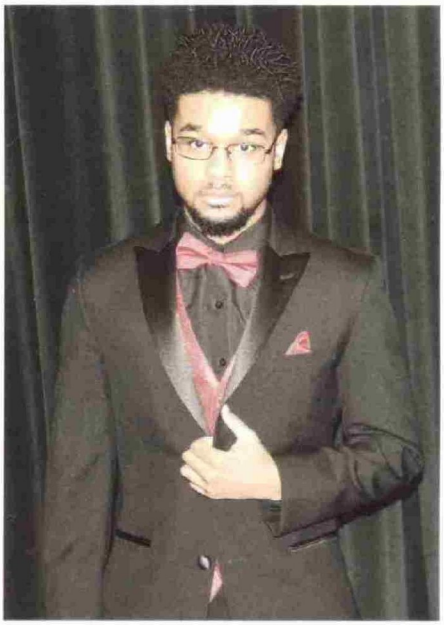
2. Receiving's Greetings // Shaking the hand of SMSgt. Dan Wrasman, a member of the receiving line, Timothy Sunny (11) is greeted at the door.

3. Standing at Attention // As the National Anthem is being sung, Joshua Milla (11), a member of the color guard, takes his standing position.



looking *sharp*

A few weeks before prom, students were given the opportunity to model tuxedos for Dunhill Tuxedo, a local business. Students wore their tuxedos around school for a day and passed out cards to classmates for a chance to receive discounts off of their tux rentals for the dance.



Student models clockwise from top left: Joenathan Smith (11), Isa Johnson (12), Jaden Lewis (11), Jacqueline Lewis (10), and Elliott Ruffin Jr. (12)

Powerful words // Performing their group piece "Judgment Day," Robert Adams (12), Ja'Leah Walker (10), Kaila Buggs (11) and Alysa Adams (11) entertain the audience with a satiric piece about the end of the world. "It was really hard to write that because there are so many different writing styles and different ideas we wanted to put in," Walker said. However, the final result was embraced as the team won two preliminary bouts for the Louder than a Bomb contest.

speaking *their* truth

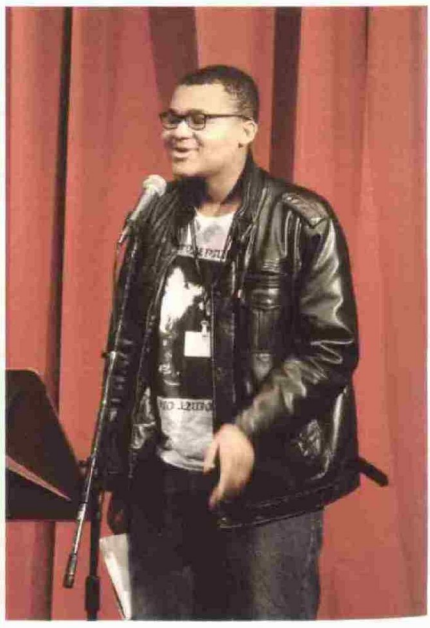
poetry slam team helps students find their voices

This year's Permanent Ink team created strong bonds among members as they progressed through competitions and shared their unique experiences. "It's a great outlet. When you have people with common interests as you, you develop strong bonds and you become a family," Ja'Leah Walker said. That's also what Brookelyn Burks (11) likes best. "It's more than just a team, it's a family. You can be you no matter what or who you are and there wouldn't be judgment," she said.

The team won both of its preliminary bouts while advancing to the quarterfinal round of the Louder than a Bomb competition in Chicago; they also took individual 1st, 2nd, and 4th place at the inaugural Purdue-Northwest Slam in Hammond. "I enjoy seeing the kids grow as artists and collaborate together for group pieces. Obviously the competitive events are fun, but even the non-competitive community art events are a joy to be a part of," Coach David Hossler said.

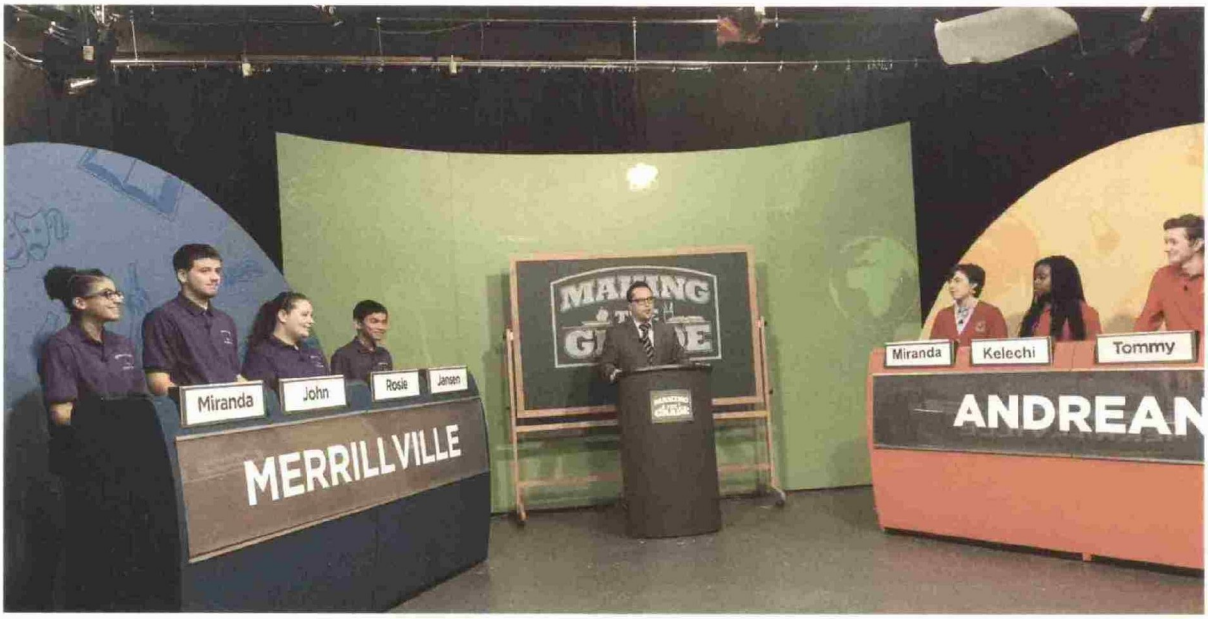
Center stage // Performing for a school assembly, Brookelyn Burks (11) shares a poem she wrote titled "Poetic Suicide" that explores what it's like to live with depression and suicidal feelings.

From the heart // Showing her emotions, Ja'Leah Walker (10) shares a personal piece with fellow students. "I like being able to express myself and hearing other people's stories as well as sharing my own," Walker said.



Passion & poetry: With a strong voice, Avery Timmons recites a poem on a civil rights.

Photos by J. Scolaro



Taking the spotlight // Competing against Andrean, Quiz Bowl members Miranda Cuozzo (12), John Sawyer (12), Rosario Contreras (12) and Jansen Tan (12) compete on the TV show Making the Grade, a game show for area high school students. The Pirates competed in four intense rounds, losing by just one question.

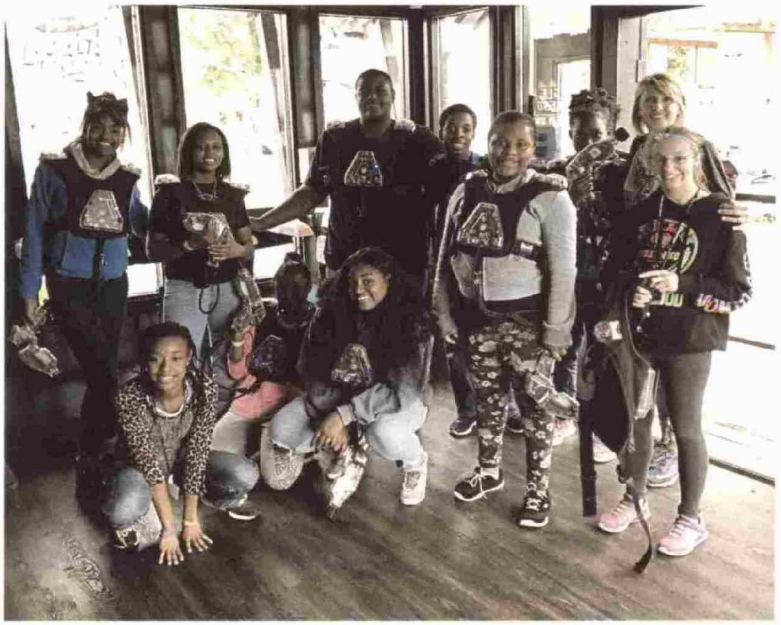
Quiz Bowl competition // With intense concentration, Maria Tan (11), Asia Gray (12), Jansen Tan (12) and John Sawyer (12) listen to a question in an area competition. After a strong regular season, the Quiz Bowl team advanced to the state competition.

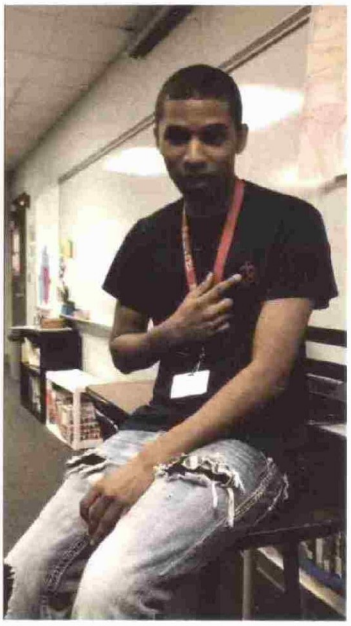
Quiz kids reach new heights

This year's Quiz Bowl team had all the right answers, finishing 4th in the DAC and qualifying for the state tournament. The group of 18 students had a wide range of knowledge that allowed them to do well at the competitions, which quizzed students on everything from history and pop culture to sports, literature and more. Coach Melissa Sickinger hoped the success helps turn around the perception of academic teams. "Academic teams are often looked at in a nerdy or geeky way, but we have the best time throwing aside that stereotype and embracing the intelligence that many of our kids possess," she said. Senior John Sawyer's only regret was not joining sooner. "It was a great season, and it was fun to go to competitions with other schools and experience being on an academic team," he said.

Making a difference

Students in peer tutoring classes received a unique chance to build strong relationships with other students by helping with their studies and personal growth and development. At far right, Dawon Velez (12) tells students about his plans to join the Marines after graduation. Students also attended a variety of special events that helped them bond, such as a trip to Zao Island for a game of laser tag (pictured at right).

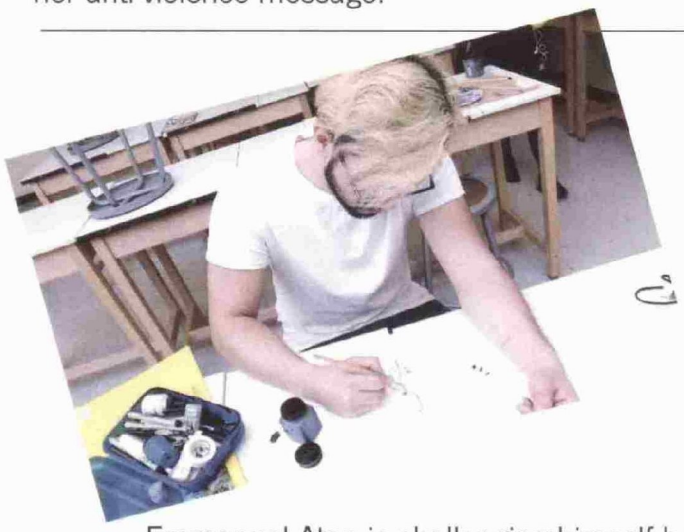




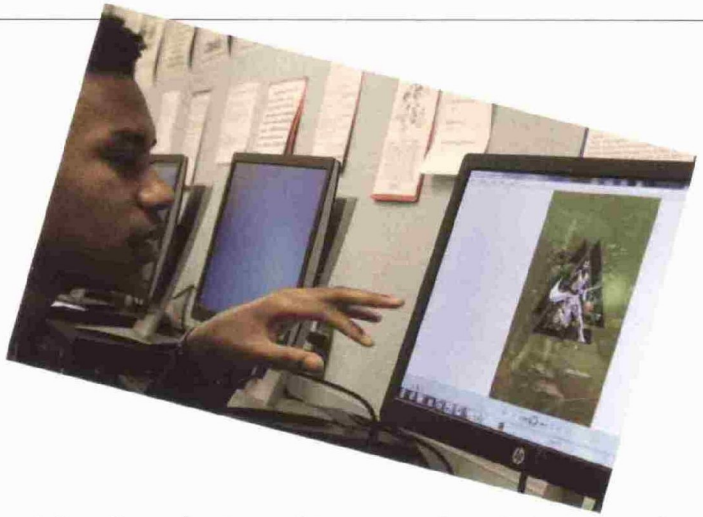
making *their* mark

Aaliyah Stewart has found a way to turn tragedy into something positive by starting a nonprofit foundation. "I started my nonprofit organization my freshman year of high school in honor of my two brothers that were killed," she said. Stewart mentors other young people, holds anti-violence rallies and raises money to fund scholarships for high school seniors. Her web site "Iamthem.org" helps spread her anti-violence message.

Medina Griffin has started making her mark styling people's hair. "I like to make people feel good about themselves," she said. Griffin runs a shop in a secluded area of her home and plans to make a career being a hairstylist. "Recently I've remodeled the shop in my house. Pretty soon I think I might want to start working in a hair shop," Griffin said. "After high school, I'm going to get my cosmetologist license."



Emmanuel Aton is challenging himself by creating a 20-page comic book. "I started my comic book to develop my illustrations," he said. "Making a comic book involves using sequential art and storytelling and being able to draw consistent characters as well as effective scene compositions." Meeting his deadline has been the hardest part. "People wanting to see the whole thing come to fruition is a great motivator," he said.



Jalen Crowder is making a mark with his artwork. "I like how artwork makes me feel calmer," Crowder said. "It's a way to express my thoughts." He started design work after finding inspiration in a picture of Derrick Rose. "Right now I'm doing sports pictures, so a lot of sport fanatics are buying them," said Crowder, who will study at Columbia College. "My friends didn't know I did this, so it was a shock for them."

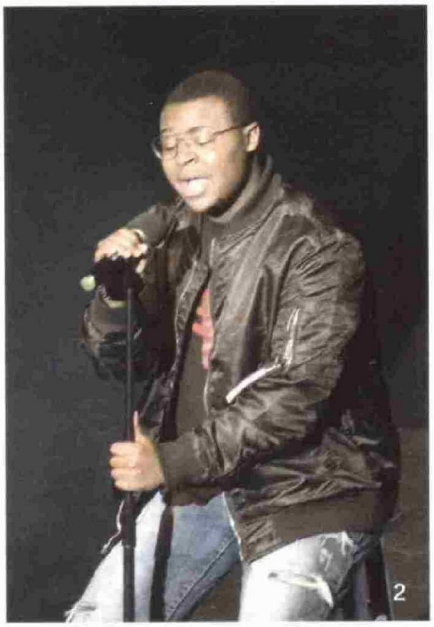
showcasing talent

Every year. students get a chance to take the spotlight in the annual Revue. "It is an opportunity for students to showcase their talents outside of curricular classes like band, choir, orchestra and drama. Although most participants are members of our school performance classes, auditions are open to anyone in the school," Mrs. Melinda Reinhart, sponsor of the event, said. Dozens of students took the stage this year – singing, dancing, drumming and more.

1. Star // Enjoying the spotlight, Jadyn Lawson (11) performs a modern dance. "I felt really good after, kind of like a star. Everyone was clapping and crying," she said.

2. From the heart // Singing his heart out, Xavier King (11) performs "I Care" by Beyoncé.

3. Make the beat// Daniel Lewis (11), Joseph White (11), Timothy Porter (12) and Aubin Robinson (11) perform their "stool pigeon" act.



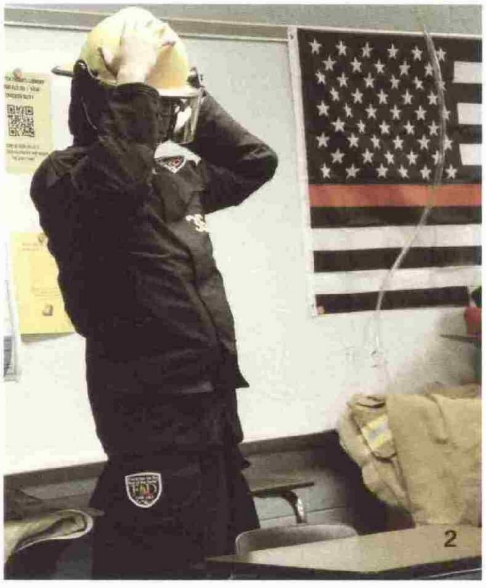
Sing it out // Moriah Madkins (11) sings "Feeling Good" by Nina Simone. Madkins expressed her feeling for the song by singing passionately. She showed her multiple talents when she played piano to accompany herself.

Lifting their voices // Providing some inspiration, Voices of Reason performs for the audience at the Revue.

Keeping the beat // Accompanying his sister Moriah, Javon Madkins (12) shows his skills on the drums during her singing performance.

Photos by J. Scolaro

Gearing up // Adjusting the equipment, Mr. James Sopher helps George Perosky (12) put on firefighting turnout gear, including boots, trousers, hood, helmet and oxygen.



Photos by Isa Johnson

exploring career paths

Fire and Rescue class lets students step into the shoes of emergency workers

2. Topping it off // As he dons the protective clothing, Cameron Chenault (11) puts on his helmet.

3. A helping hand // Finding the right fit, Seth Akers (12) helps Teaja Ayres (12) adjust her helmet so it stays on properly.

4. First steps // Walking around the room, Seth Akers (12) gets used to carrying the weight of the gear as Jonathan Sims (12) observes. The class inspired Akers to make a career out of firefighting. "I've always liked helping people and that's all firefighters do," he said.

hands-on science experience

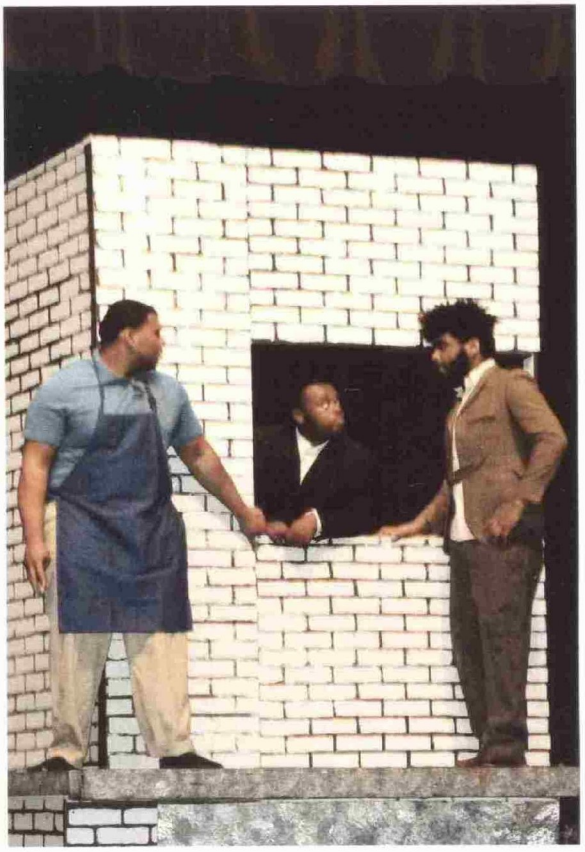
Animal anatomy // In Mr. Joe Atria's AP Biology class, Reem Sulieman (11) and Rosario Contreras (12) carefully dissect a fetal pig. Dissection allows students to see the body's structures in three dimensions, demonstrating how the organ systems are interconnected.

Fully focused // Examining the fetal pig's anatomy, Caleb Hiller (12) takes his time to dissect carefully and learn all the different organs. // Photos by C. Gonzalez

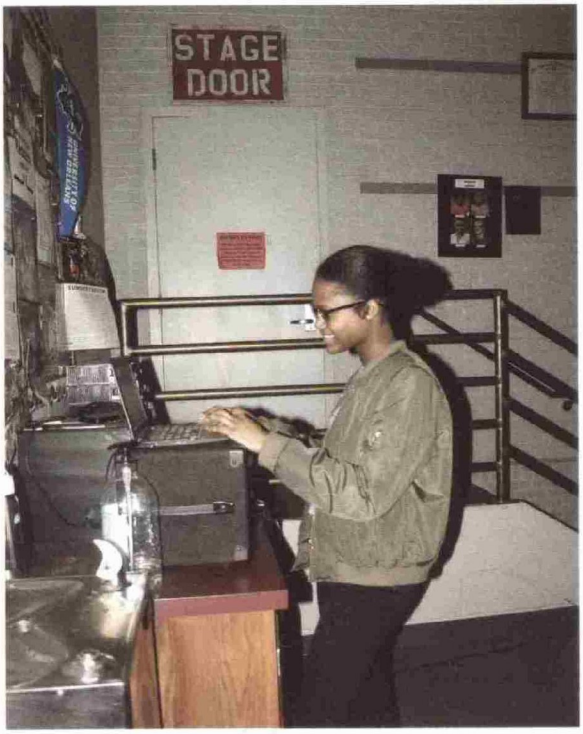
ABCs of child care

Coloring time // During a special preschool, Maritza Frazier (12) and Christian Hill (12) color with a youngster who came for the activity. Students in Ms. Shelley Ray's Child Development class invited preschoolers and entertained them with various activities. This was a special one-week day care, where the parents brought the toddlers to the high school. // Photo by A. Whitaker.

one-act plays



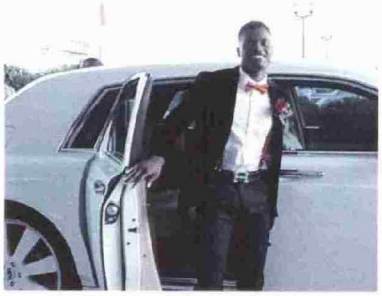
Center stage // As part of their Theater Production class, Justus White (12), Elliott Ruffin (12) and William Brumfield (12) star in a dark comedy about a man who is trying to commit suicide, but ends up being courted by two suicide professionals seeking his business.



In control // Working backstage, India Anderson (11) runs the sound and lights for one of the plays. // Photos by J. Lawson.

the fairy tale *dream*

Making a grand entrance // As they wait for the Grand March to begin, Diamond Morris, Kameron Flowers, Jaydah Yanders, Camille Fuller and her date scan the crowds in the gym looking for friends and family.

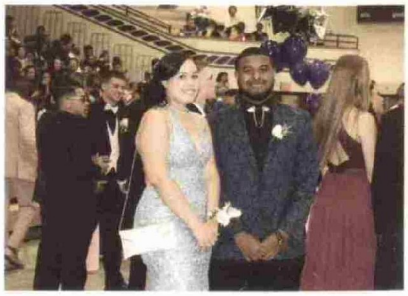


Mr. Charming// As the prom festivities begin, Chaz Sales (12) charms the crowd of guests with a smile as he exits his luxurious car at the entrance to Avalon Manor, the site of the dance.

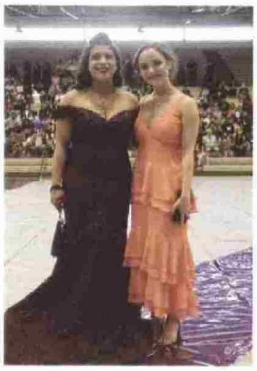
Prom prep // To keep her hair style unruffled, Jadyn Lawson (11) wears a bonnet to school Friday morning.

Arriving in style // As they enter the banquet hall, students get their IDs and tickets ready to show at the door.

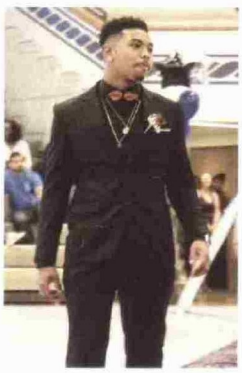
Got the blues? // Arriving at the Grand March, Elizabeth Hibbler and Edmund Gunn look glamorous in their shades of blue.



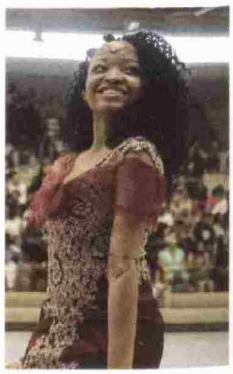
Flower power // In colorful matching outfits, Cameron Figueroa (12) and Tatiana Peters (11) smile for friends and family at the Grand March.



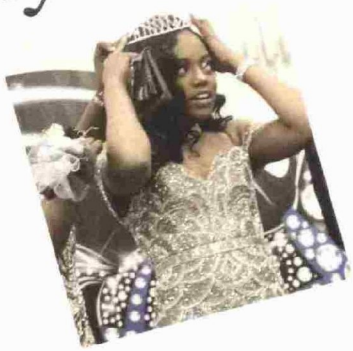
Glamor shot // During the Grand March, friends Carly Gubitz and Molly Murphy stop to pose for pictures at the end of the aisle.

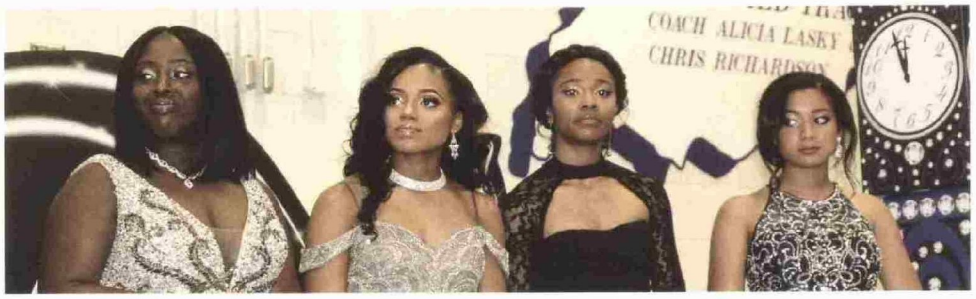


Enjoying the spotlight // At left, KeShawn Lilly shows off his fashion sense on the walkway, while Aniya Edwards (right) takes the spotlight in a glamorous gown and exotic jewelry.

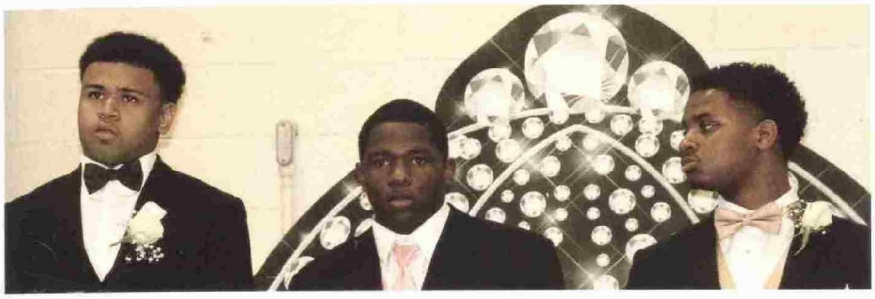


walking royalty

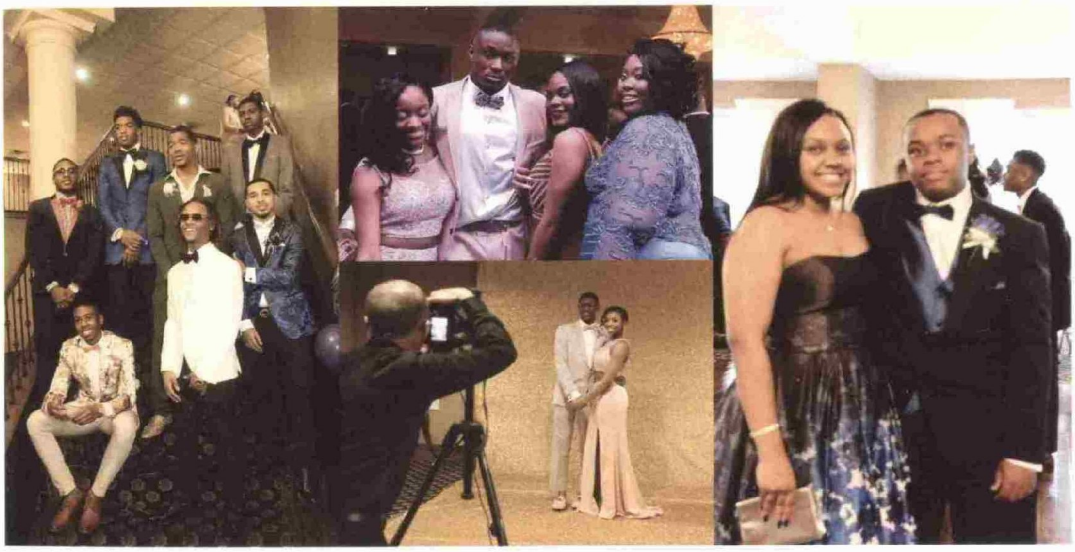




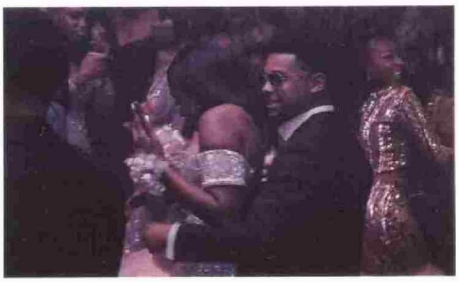
Fit for a queen // Below, candidates Amaya Butler, Kiyah Walker, Payton McHenry and Cheyenne Figueroa anxiously await the announcing of this year's Prom Queen. At left, Kiyah Walker adjusts her crown after her name is announced.



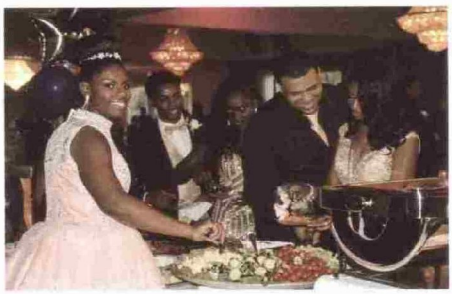
Countdown begins // The candidates for Prom King – Joshua Benton, Dakari Alford and Jaden Lewis – take the stage before Benton's name is read for Prom King.



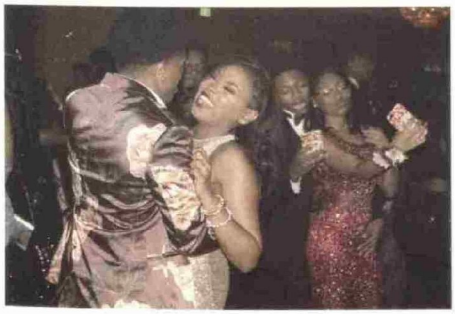
Prom perfect // Showing their swag, a group of young men, left, pose on the steps to show off their prom fashions: front row, D'Amani Cundiff, Neddie Burks and Antoine Johnson. Back row: Davion Ervin-Poindexter, Jaylon Holmes, Jeremiah Marshall, Nakia Chinn Jr. Top photo, SaNiah Isabell, Monique Denton, Aniya McClendon and Tori Hardin take a break from the dance floor. Bottom right: Elliott Ruffin and Leah Waiters make a striking couple. Bottom center: Justin Jackson and Kylah Nicholson take their formal prom portrait before going into the dance.



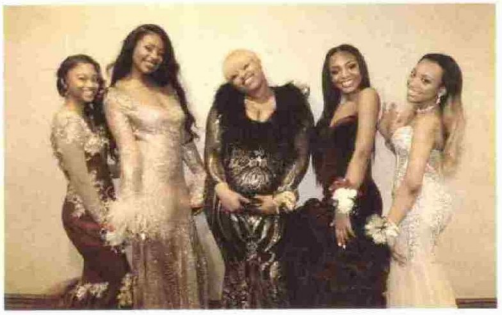
Light show // Amid the glowing lights, Jhonae Garmon and Isa Johnson slow dance.



Banquet meal // As the dance gets underway, students line up to get a snack before hitting the dance floor.



Dance magic // As the music slows down, couples show off happy faces for their dates and for Snapchat selfies.

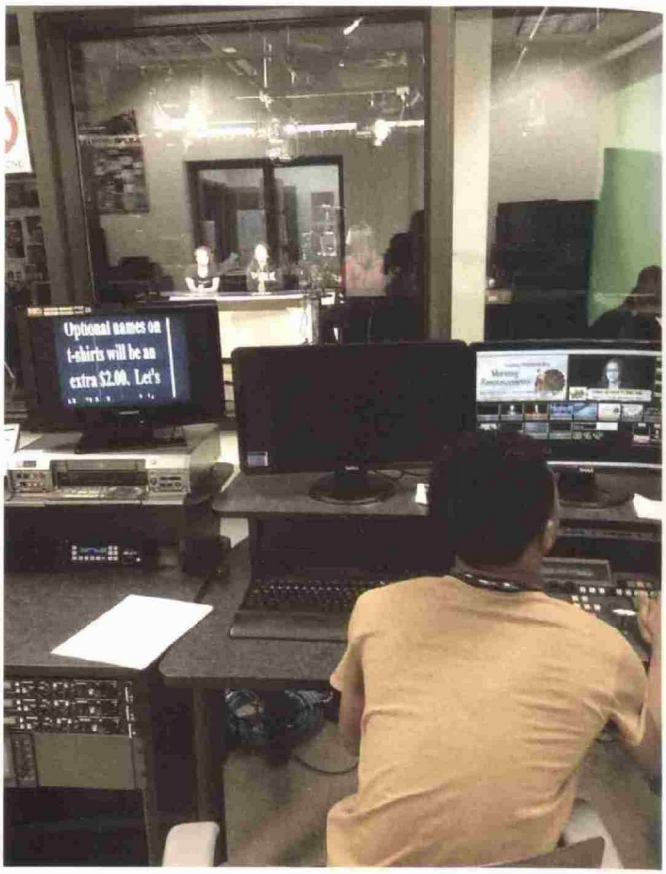


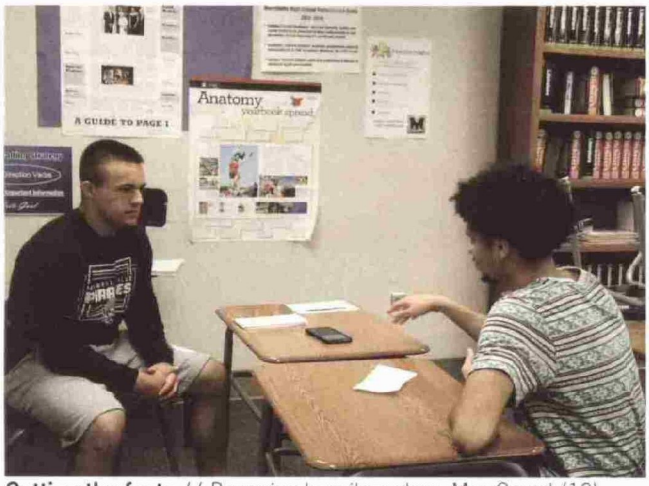
Glam squad // Showing off their beautiful gowns, Ke'leica Junigan, Alyssa Hunt, Amara Hester, Timeah Hicks and Natalya Durham pose for a candid shot.

Spotlight *on the news*

Camera ready // During first period, Jazmine Martinez-Santa and Abigail Diaz prepare to go on air for the morning show announcements.

Behind the scenes // Working the control panel, JaKobe Wilbon learns about the production side of broadcasting.





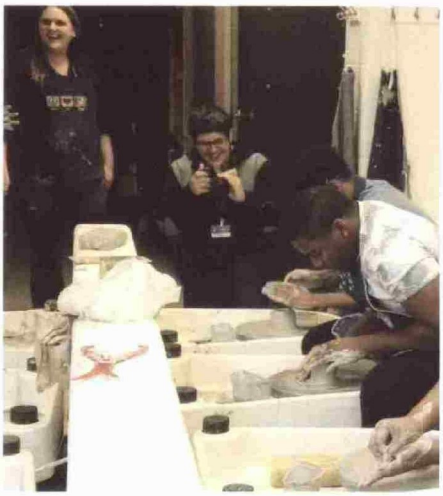
Getting the facts // Preparing to write a story, Max Govert (12), editor of the school newspaper, interviews Cameron Figueroa about being recognized as co-valedictorian of the Class of 2018.

Senior Abigail Diaz knew she was interested in broadcast journalism, but she wasn't sure that she wanted to make a career out of it. Then Diaz spent time in newspaper and radio and TV classes, and she knew she wanted to attend the University of Miami to study broadcast journalism.

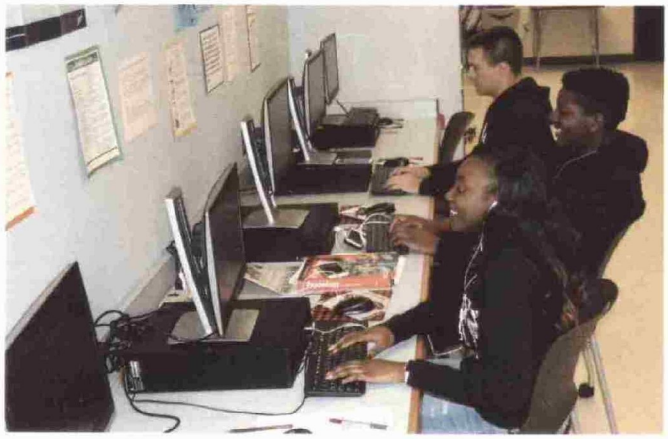
"It made me open up my eyes a lot more about what I really wanted to do," she said of the TV class. "It helped me learn a lot about the equipment and the techniques to use."

Diaz said newspaper class helped her grow more independent because she had to get out of her comfort zone and interview people she didn't know. She found out she enjoyed the experience.

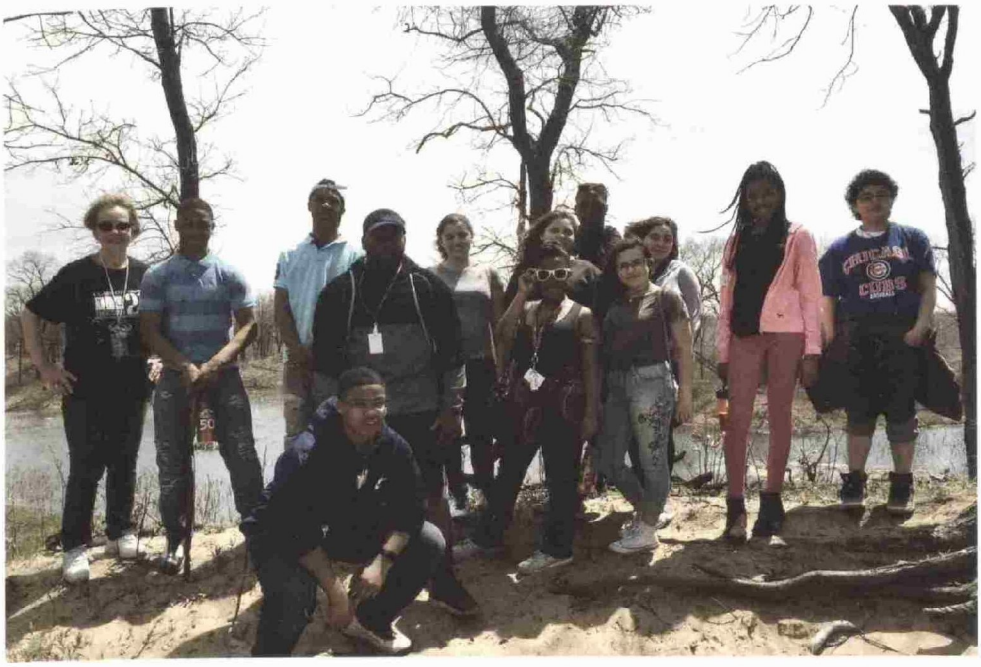
"It does require hard work, but at the same time, you get to meet new people – whether it is people you interview or people you work with. It builds a good sense of teamwork," she said.



In focus // Taking aim, Lorenzo Espinoza (10) prepares to shoot photos of a ceramics class for the yearbook. Yearbook class gives students practice with interviewing, writing, designing and photography.



Under pressure // With their deadline looming, Diamond Morris (12), Bryan Fields (12) and Editor Max Govert (12) design pages for an issue of the Mirror, the school newspaper. Staff members write, edit and layout pages for the paper.

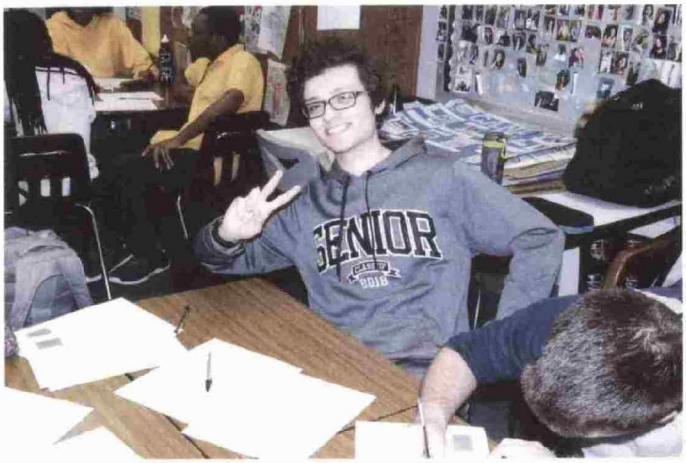


Back to nature // Enjoying the sunshine, Mrs. Cheryl Austin's students take a break after a hike at the Paul Douglas Center for Environmental Education in Gary. Mrs. Austin wanted the students to learn the importance of biodiversity by exploring the National Lakeshore's many habitats and discovering various species of plants. // Photo by C. Austin.

a breath of *fresh* air

On the lookout // Keeping a careful watch, brothers Cameron Williams (9) and Eric Williams (10) try to find beavers in the pond at the learning center. // Photo by C. Austin.

attendance record intact



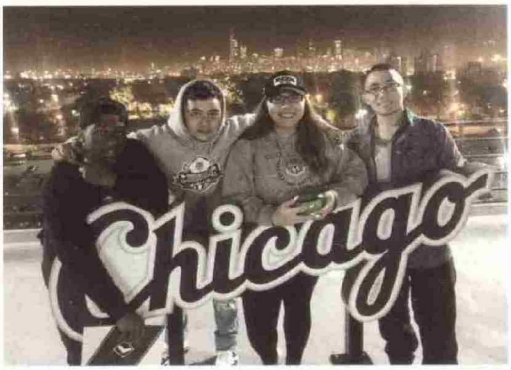
Star student // Kyle Noonan was recognized for having perfect attendance throughout high school. // Photo by A. Whitaker

At the annual Awards Night, Senior Kyle Noonan was recognized for achieving what few students are able to: graduating without missing a day of high school. In fact, Noonan did not miss a day of school since he had a fever in the third grade.

"I'm a very motivated person and I don't really feel the need to miss school, so that's what made me come to school every day," he said. "Of course, I had days where I came and I had a stuffy/runny nose and stuff, but it didn't stop me from coming to school."

take me out to the ballgame

Fan-damonium// Enjoying a night at a White Sox game, students pose with their chaperones, Mrs. Carrie Bedwell, Mrs. Jennifer Beasley and Mr. Ben Nicksic, who arranged the trip on May 23. There were 40 students and eight teachers at the game. They were treated to an exciting win by the Sox who beat the Baltimore Orioles 11-1.

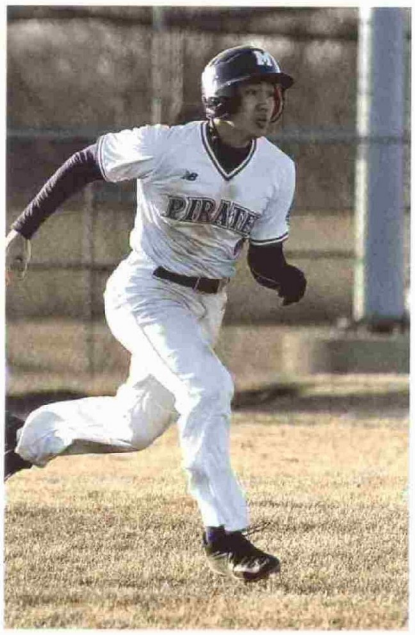


City lights // Enjoying the view, Robert "Max" Adams (12), Jose Fragoso (12), Treasure Green (12) and Jose Lamboy (12) pose for a photo at the game.

senior memories:
what was your highlight?

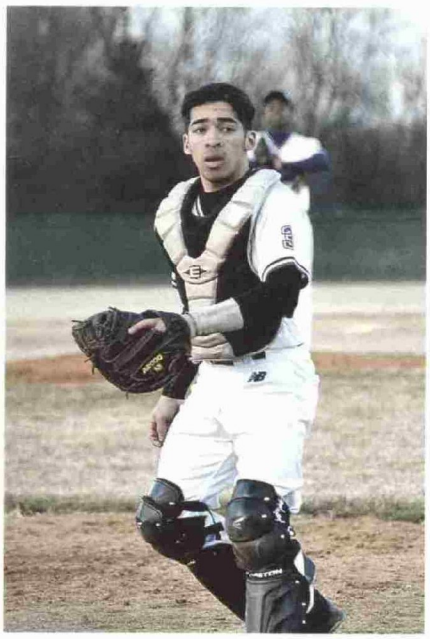
"When we beat Valpo. It was a competitive game. We showed that Merrillville is changing, beating a DAC team that we haven't beat in a long while."

– Maxwell Govert



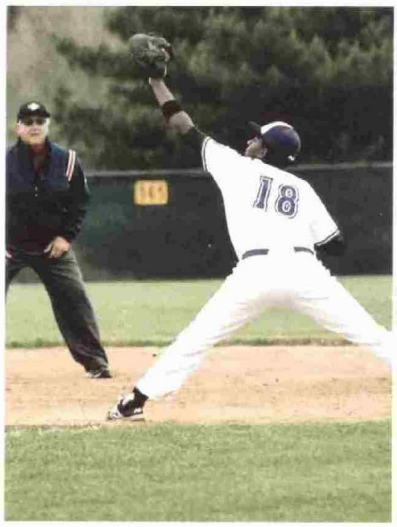
"It was the Valpo Game! Striking out the last three batters in the 7th inning to win the game by one run. Also, it was the first time in 10 years Merrillville beat Valpo."

– Israel Woods



"My favorite memory was Senior Night with Max, Bryan and Izzy (Israel Woods). I got to have a Senior Night with my brothers that I always wanted."

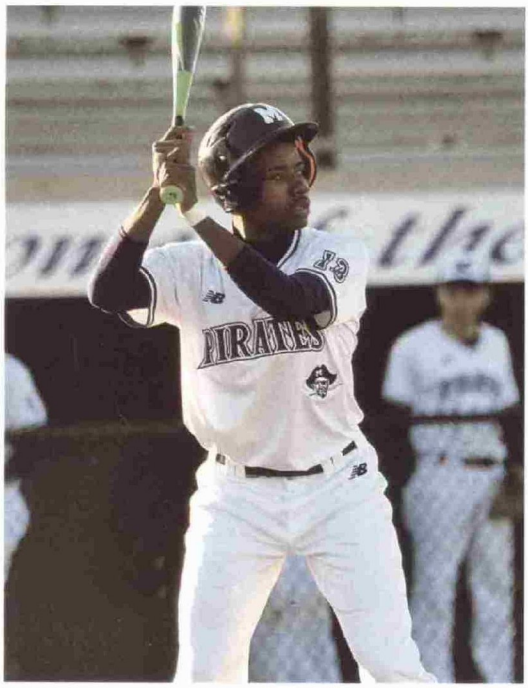
– Reggie "Chico" Carter



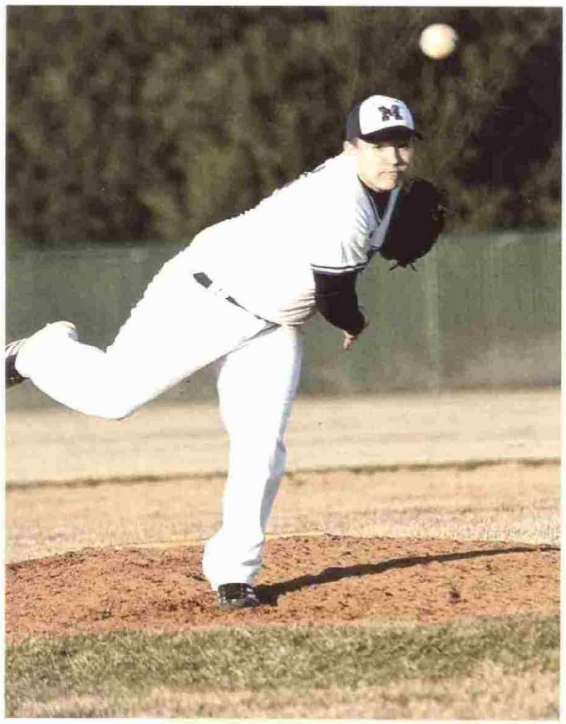
"Bishop Noll (Senior Night) was my favorite game of the season because we got honored with many gifts and treasures, and we played a really good game and we won."

– Bryan Fields

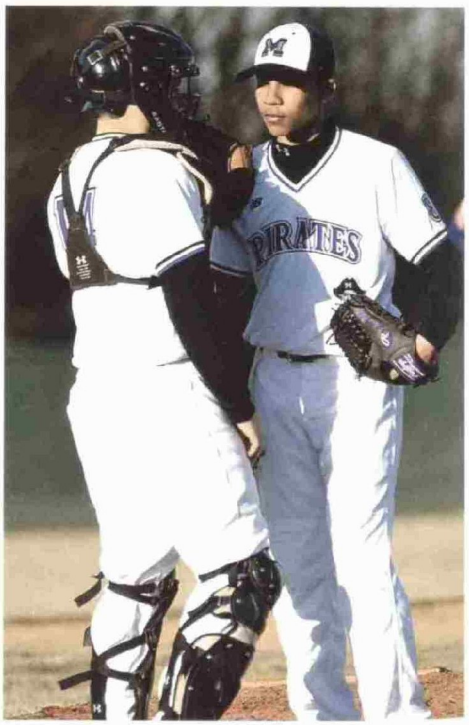
on deck



Batter up // One of a group of talented juniors, Antoine King stands ready at the plate.



Ace on the mound // Throwing a pitch, Jacob McDonald (11) tries to strike out the opposing batter. A highlight of the season was McDonald throwing a one-hitter against Bishop Noll.



Conference call // Taking a short break, catcher Brandon Lucero (11) and and Armon Pelozo (10) confer on the mound for the best strategy to face the next batter.

Team bonding // As they joke around, the team laughs in the dugout at Railcats Stadium where they were invited to play. Senior Maxwell Govert said playing in the stadium was a unique experience: "It just gave the feel of a more professional field. The hops were better. Everything was better." // Photo by I. Butts

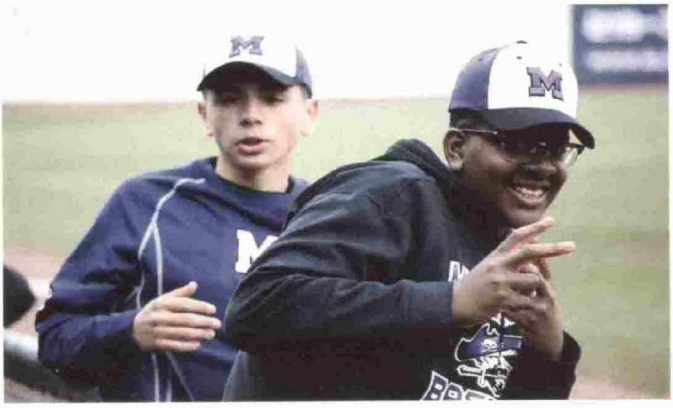
hitting their **stride**

Baseball players celebrate strong ending to season

Coming together during the latter part of the season, the baseball squad scored some important victories. "The team played their best baseball of the season during the last few weeks," Coach Paul Wirtz said. "All coaches want to see their teams grow and improve, and the improvements this team made were clear as they grew together. The team did seem to bond more, which always will lead to more successes."

Senior Maxwell Govert said the team started trusting the coach's vision, which led to success. "We started playing team baseball, and it was actually the beginning of changing the culture like we've been trying to do," he said.

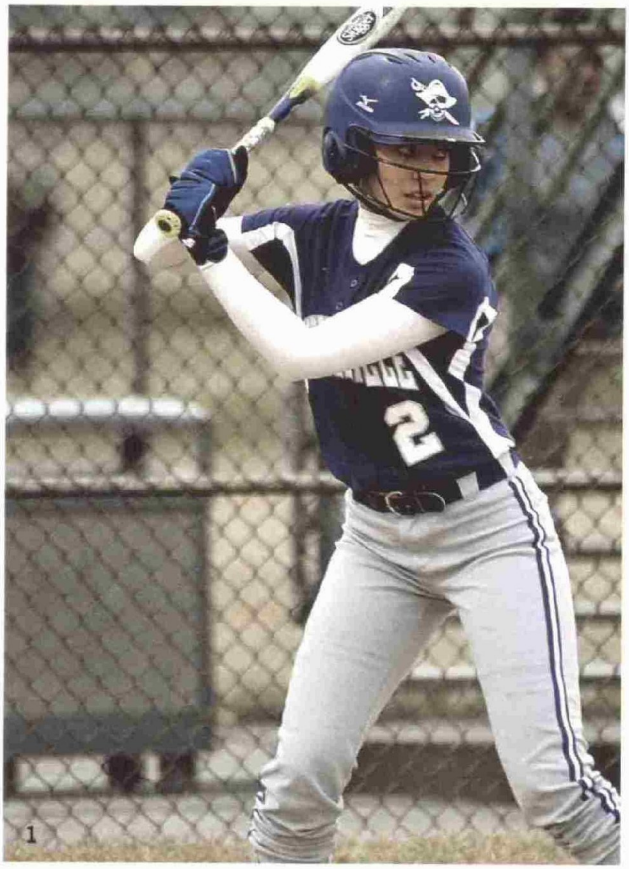
The successes included a victory over DAC rival Valparaiso, and a win over Bishop Noll on Senior Night, which featured a one-hit pitching performance from Jacob McDonald. "The season was rough at the beginning, but toward the end when we started getting the hang of things and winning, it was fun," Bryan Fields (12) said.



Shenanigans in the dugout // Relaxing in the dugout as they watch the game, Jonathan Spates (11) and Bryan Fields (12) pose for a picture

1. Fierce focus // Standing ready, Alexis Ramos (12) keeps her focus on the incoming pitch. The team relied on her consistent and powerful hitting. "Hitting three home runs at a Hobart game was pretty exciting," Alexis Ramos (12) said.

2. Fast forward // With a swift motion, Paige Wood (11) pitches the ball. Wood was the main pitcher this year despite having not pitched in several seasons. // Photos by T. DiGrispino



working **together**

Lady Pirates push through a tough season with good spirits

The girls faced many challenges, but teamwork helped them become extremely close. "We kind of just bonded and blended as a family," Paige Wood (11) said. They worked through their losses, and discovered their strengths and weaknesses. Learning fundamentals, such as fielding, was a priority. "To play these positions you need to have speed, agility and great hand-eye coordination," Taira Amisu (10) said.

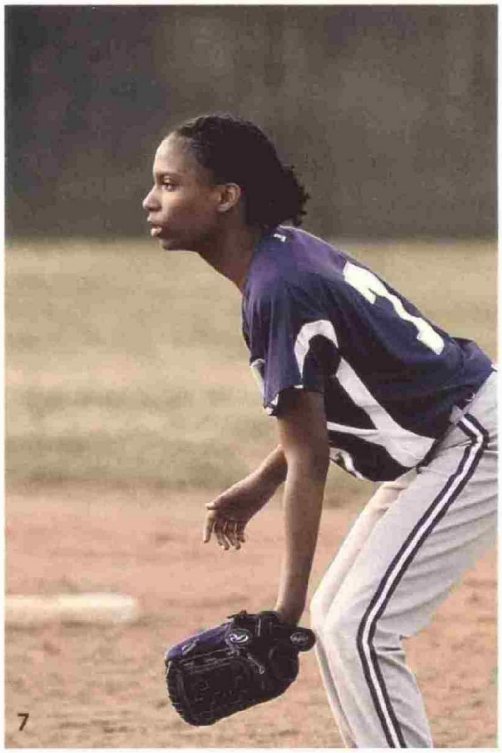
Despite the losses, there were some high points. "Winning on our Senior Night was a major highlight since it was special to the other girls to win a game," Alexis Ramos (12) said. Moving on proved hard for the seniors. "It was very sad our last game. I was the only one crying and then everyone else started crying. I don't like leaving, especially the younger girls," Ramos said.

3. Swinging through // Maintaining her stance, Maria Guardiola (10) swings to hit the ball with all her force. // Photos by T. DiGrispino

4. Waiting patiently // Keeping her eye on the pitcher, Kayla Alcox (10) watches for an opportunity to steal a base.

5. Ready and waiting // Playing deep, outfielder Kihya Price (10) is in position to track down a hard-hit fly ball.

6. On the move // Keeping an eye on the ball, Alexis Ramos (12) hurries to catch a fast-paced grounder. Ramos will continue playing softball at Elmhurst College.



7. Showing skills // Standing ready, Taira Amisu (10) covers second base. The team worked hard on perfecting plays in the infield. "Our double play is the most exciting play because it is very hard to do," Amisu said.

Practice makes perfect // Practicing their handoff, Justin Setzer (12) and Martin Cruz (11) prepare before the 4-by-100-meter relay event. The team finished second at the sectional competition. Setzer's 4-by-100 meter relay team finished first at the state meet. // Photo by I. Butts

stronger *together*

Students find common goals, success in Unified Track

The Unified Track & Field team followed its successful first year with another strong finish, placing second in the state championship meet. However, winning was not the main focus for the athletes. "The thing I like most is seeing the smiles of the kids after they finish an event, and they come up to me and give me a high-five," Martin Cruz (10) said.

Friendships were also a big part of the team as they bonded over team dinners, snacks and other rituals. That was what inspired Coach Chris Richardson the most. "I enjoyed watching the friendships created and the mentorship that is executed . . . I enjoy watching the kids develop together and build the spirit of camaraderie in support of all the Unified participants," he said.

On the run // Pulling ahead, Michael Croy (11) sprints to a first-place finish in the 400-meter dash. // Photo by I. Butts

Cheering from the sidelines // Cheering on their teammate, James Haymon (9) and Savannah Shirley (12) watch as George Perosky (12) competes in the 400-meter race. It's Perosky's second year competing for the Unified Track team. // Photos by I. Butts

Celebration photo // After their second-place finish at state, the Unified Track team poses with its trophy. The team finished just 3 points behind the first-place team.

Taking flight // During the long jump competition, Savannah Shirley (12) soars.

Symbol of success // After the competition, Ronald Woods (12) shows off the team's trophy.

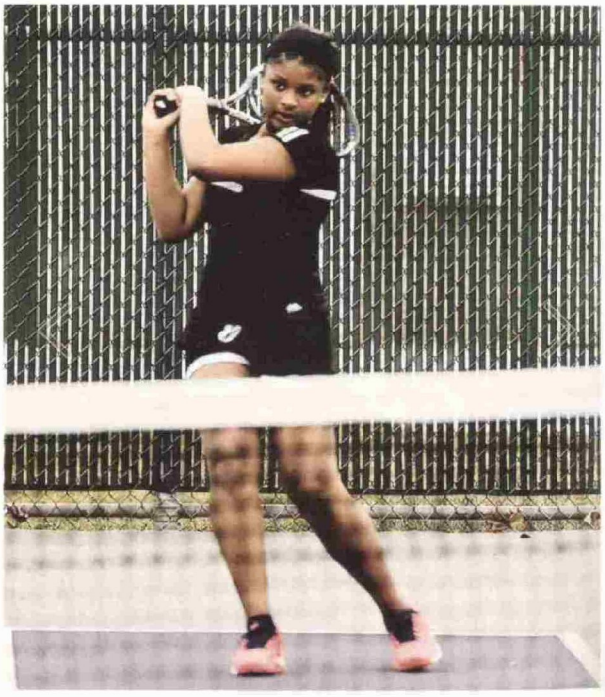
Taking the lead // Giving it all her might, Hanna Stevens (11) races ahead of her opponent.

Pirate pride // At the state tournament, team members show off their Pirate pride after a relay race.

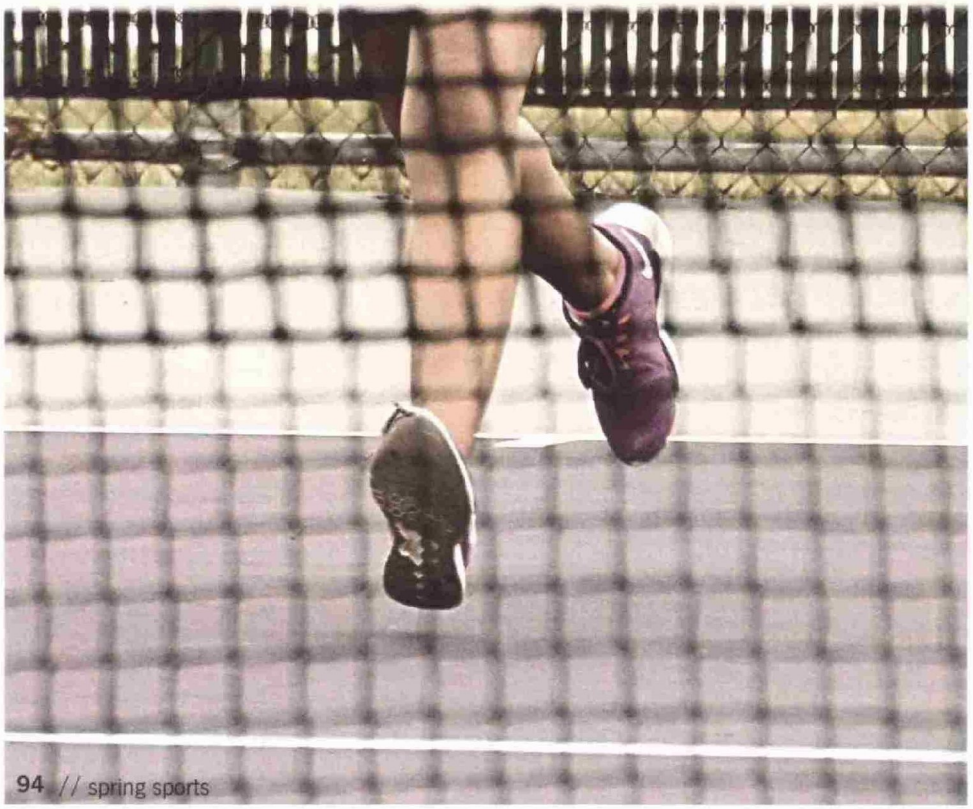
Spoils of success // After the event, Imani Butts, Shania Norwood, Michael Croy, Jaquisha Haymon and Caitlin Perosky pose with the trophy and ribbons.

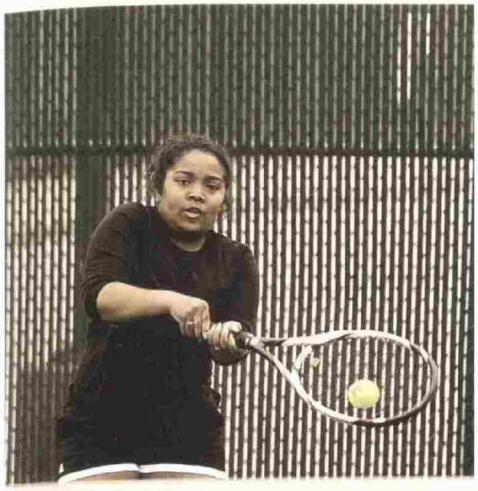
swinging to **success**

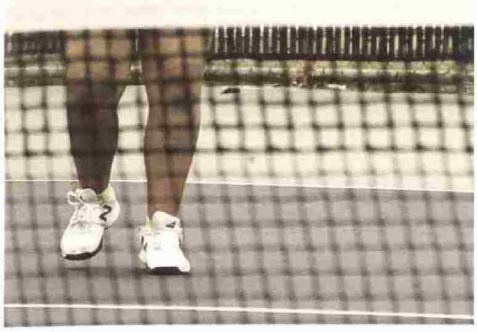
The girls experienced changes that may break a team, but they took a change in coaching and allowed it to build them. "Our fundamentals have definitely gotten better, and we have a better understanding of the game. We have come to look at it from a different perspective," Ashlyn Robinson (12) said. Their record was better than the past two years with three wins. Sydney Jackson (9) claimed the No. 1 singles spot and continued to stay on top of her game as one of the only freshmen on varsity. Senior Allure Calhoun (left) started her tennis career at Crown Point High School, but she brought her talents here and has continued to improve since. "I improved by perfecting my ground strokes and learning new ball placement techniques," Calhoun said.



Only up from here // Although Sydney Jackson's (9) family has a history of tennis, she has made her own name for herself. After playing for five years, she was on varsity as a freshman. "I love how much I bond with my team and that I can have fun," Jackson said. She practiced her skills with her brother Justin, who played tennis on the varsity boys' team, and with her coach, Lonnie Wooden. Her record for the season was 10-7.

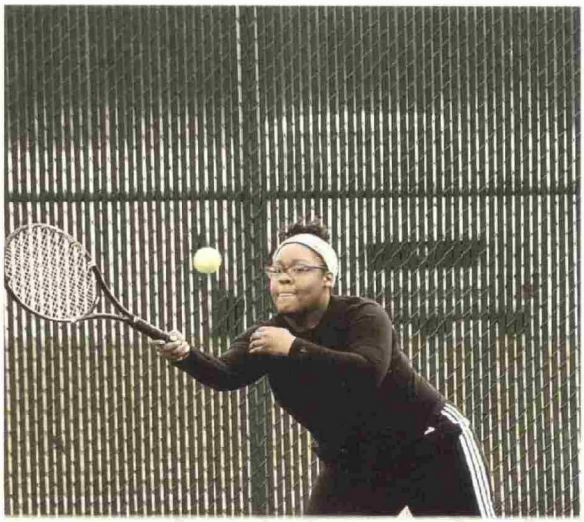






One last time // In her last year playing, Kamri Smith (12) gives it her all on the court. "The best part of playing is the feeling of accomplishment when executing a difficult shot," Smith said. Coming to terms with the end of her high school tennis career, Smith said that she will miss playing with her friend Nijaia Jones (11).

Looking back // With her racket outstretched, Madison Bullock (12) keeps her eye on the ball. "I was more confident in my playing ability this season because I knew that I had put so much time and effort into tennis. I enjoyed playing the game so it made me want to do better," Bullock said. She said that she appreciated the new coach's passion for the game and daily pep talks.



The end // In her fifth and final year of playing the sport, Ashlyn Robinson (12) acknowledges her improvements. "I've improved my serve a lot and my mindset going into every match," Robinson said. She said that she will miss the unique team bond and spending so much time with her teammates.

bond, team bond

bond *(noun)*
process of development of a close, interpersonal relationship between two or more people

Throughout the course of a season, bonds are formed that not only carry the girls through their matches, but ultimately carry them through life.

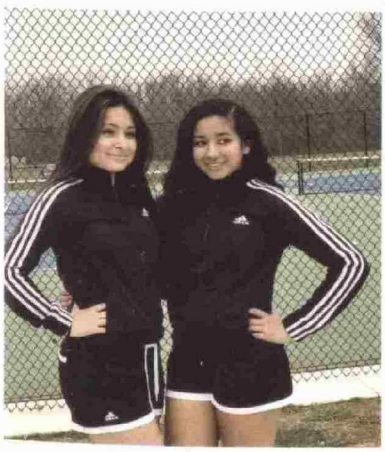
"It was sort of like we were already friends and we celebrated each other's successes" – Madison Bullock (12)

"We've known each other since middle school so we have grown together" – Kamri Smith (12)

"We laughed and made too many jokes even when it was not the time" – Ashlyn Robinson (12)

"The girls made me feel welcomed and it made me more confident in my ability with their support" – Carly Gubitz (12)

"My favorite part of the season were the bus rides home after a match. Win or lose it was a great time" – Allure Calhoun (12)



Double threat // Throughout his high school career, Brett Norton (12) has excelled in both shot put and discus. He finished his senior year all-state in both.

keeping on **track**

Depth, hard work pay off with regional championship

This year's boys' track team won the regional championship and sent seven athletes to the state championship, ranking it among one of the best ever in school history.

"Our depth has been instrumental to our success this season," Coach Patrick Coffey said. "Additionally, we have a great culture on our team and our kids have worked extremely hard for their accolades."

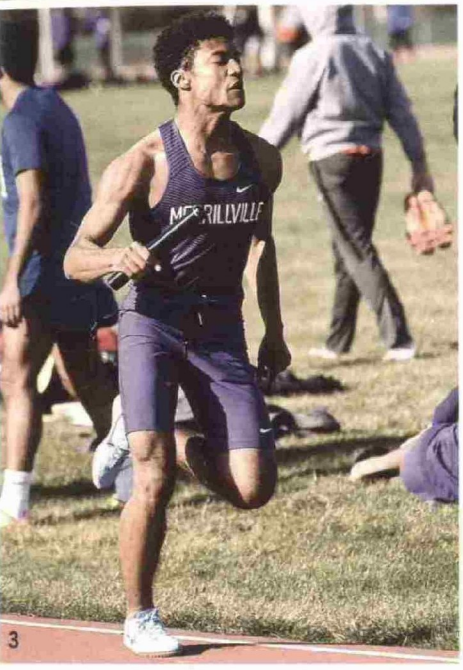
"Our focus coming into the (regional) meet was everyone doing their individual jobs and advancing as many as we could to the state meet. We knew if we could do that we would have a shot at the team title. It was a very special moment for our athletes, staff and my family."

Senior Brett Norton advanced to state in both the shot put and the discus, taking home medals as the runner-up in shot put and 8th place in discus.

"Brett is the hardest and most focused athlete we've ever had. He takes no shortcuts athletically or academically. He is a once-in-a-lifetime athlete, and I couldn't say more positive things about him," Coach Coffey said.

Senior Xavier Griffin also performed exceptionally at state, with an 8th place finish in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles. "Xavier Griffin really came into his own this year," Coach Coffey said. "He was DAC champion and sectional (champion) in the 300m hurdles and the 4x400m relay. He qualified for both events at state and earned All-State honors in the 300m hurdles. I couldn't be more proud of him and the rest of the seniors."

Other state finalists were Gabriel Ochoa in the 800 meters, Robert Williams in the 110-meter high hurdles, Rackesh Ragoo in the 400 meters and the 4-by-400 relay team of Dominique Wood, Ragoo, Griffin and Chaz Sales (12).



1. Jumping to the sky // As he begins his jump, Zyriek Nickson (12) clears the bar. Despite battling injuries, Nickson advanced to regionals, where he finished 9th. // Photos by T. DiGrispino.

2. Accomplishing long term goals // While leaping into the sandbox, Payton Felton (12) musters his strength to beat his record in the long jump event. Felton also competed in the 100-meter dash, and advanced to the regional competition.

3. Leading the pack // Finding his stride, Gabriel Ochoa (11) runs his leg of the 4-by-800-meter relay. Ochoa advanced to the state meet in the 800-meter individual race.

4. Race to the finish // Gaining a step on his opponent, Devin Pope (11) makes his move in the 1,600 meter run.

5. Trust your teammates // Showing perfect timing, Rackesh Ragoo (11) hands off the baton to Chaz Sales in the 4-by-400 relay. The relay advanced to the state meet, finishing 16th.

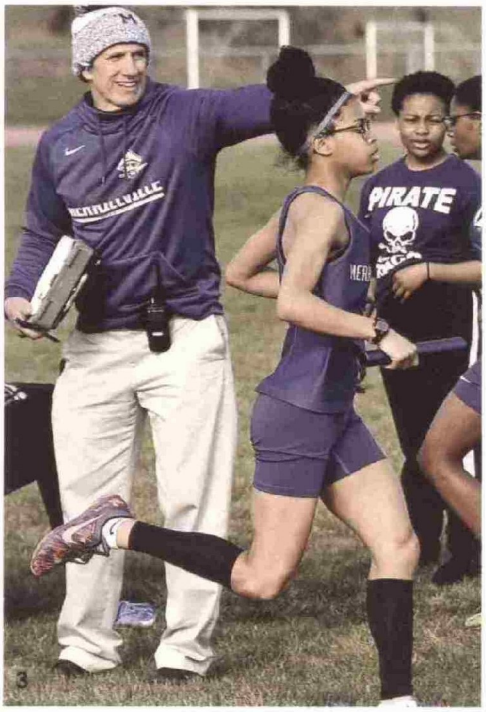
6. I can handle any hurdle // With strength and perfect timing, Xavier Griffin (12) leaps over the hurdle during the 300-meter hurdle race at a home meet.

1. Dual threat // Pushing hard to the end, Alysa Coleman (12) finishes a sprint. She also raced in the 4-by-400 relay. // Photos by T. DiGrispino

2. Ready for the handoff // Racing to the finish, Natalie Dye (12) prepares to pass the baton to Cailynn Dilosa (9) as she continues the relay.

sprint to the finish

Relay teams score top 10 finishes at state



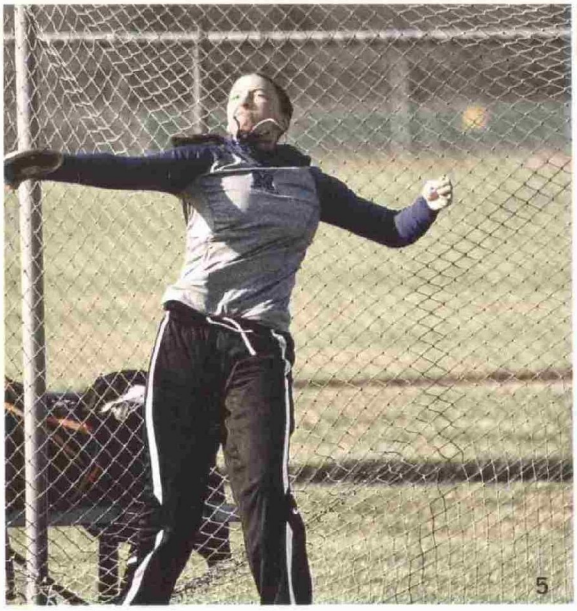
A leg up // During a relay event, Brendea McNeal (12) gets motivation from Coach Mike Hoffman on the sidelines. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

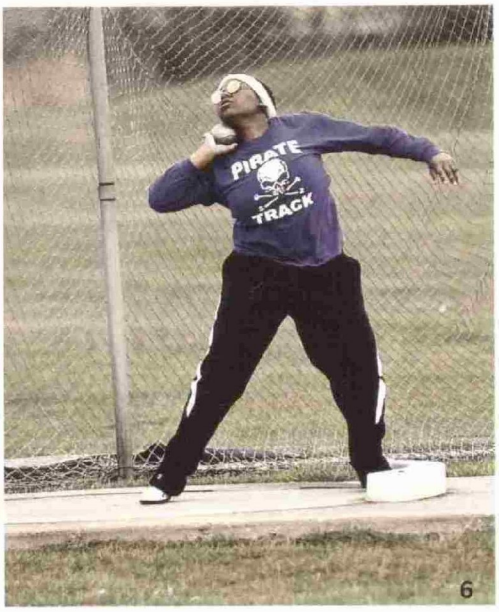
Teamwork proved essential to the girls' track team as it sent three relay teams to the state meet, with two earning spots on the podium. The 4-by-400 team of Brendea McNeal (12), Cailynn Dilosa (9), Alysa Coleman (12) and Akilah Ware (12) finished 7th, while the 4-by-100 team of Caiyla Davis (10), Payton McHenry (11), Romella Bozeman (10), and Jasmyne Rivera (10) took 8th. McNeal, Diamond Taher (10), Michelle Gunnell (10) and Shamiya Beasley (10) finished 23rd in the 4-by-800 relay.

"We trained these girls with the belief that they were one of the top relays in the state," Coach Kelly Kratz said. "Around the beginning of May, the coaches really saw a difference in the way these girls trained."

One obstacle was the loss of senior Natalie Dye to injury. "We didn't have a long time to adjust, and the girls were able to fill the open spots in the relays and be very successful. This team had a lot of depth," Coach Kratz said.

A strong group of seniors, led by McNeal, Coleman and Taher, was joined by talented young runners, including team MVP Dilosa and Beasley. "We also had some awesome performances by Chyna Royster, Arianna Chatman, Leah Sams and Jasmyne Rivera – all of these girls are sophomores and improved tremendously throughout the season," Coach Kratz said.





10. A big leap // As she clears a hurdle, Chyna Roster (10) pulls ahead of two runners from Valparaiso. Roster, who also competed in the long jump, finished 13th in the 100 meter hurdles at the regional competition. // Photo by T. DiGrispino

4. Successful hand-off // After passing the baton, Akilah Ware (12) watches Romella Bozeman (9) as she continues the relay. At state, Ware and Bozeman competed on different relay teams, but both took home medals for top 10 finishes.

5. Discus diva // Giving it her all, Emily Lesich (12) lets go of the discus. She competed in both the discus and shot put throughout high school. "It's really hard, I drink a lot of protein shakes to try and get stronger." Lesich said. "I also work a lot on my technique which is most important for throwers."

6. Taking her shot // With perfect form, Bionca Sams (12) prepares to throw the shot put. "Our throwers, Emily Lesich, Najla Louis and Bionca Sams were solid all season," Coach Kelly Kratz said.

7. Taking flight // After a successful vault, Meagan Thomas (12) clears the bar and prepares to hit the mat. Thomas finished 6th at sectionals, clearing a height of 8 feet.

8. Successful hand-off // Making her move, Shamiya Beasley (10) completes her leg of the 4-by-800 meter run. The relay team advanced to the state meet, where they finished in 23rd.

9. Sticking the landing // After a successful jump, Amaya Kirk (10) lands in the sandbox.

1. Rookie season // As he finishes his follow-through, Keith Rochefort Jr. (12) watches the flight of the ball. Rochefort consistently tallied the team's best score, including earning medalist honors in the match against Calumet. // Photos by T. DiGrispino

2. Measuring up // Using a rangefinder, Justin Villanueva (11) measures the distance to the green as Rochefort watches. Villanueva and Rochefort were the only returning players from last season. "I think for having only two players from the previous season, our scores this year were very good," Villanueva said.

1

2

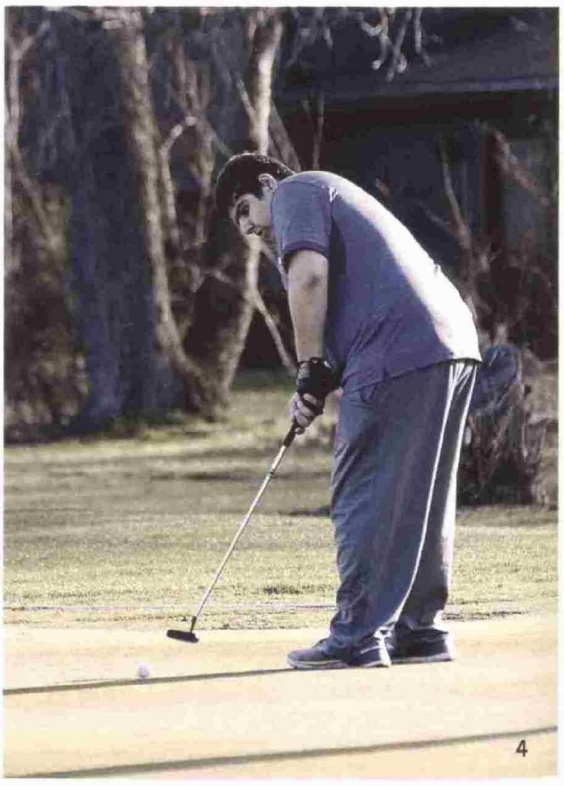
swing time

Golfers push through season with small squad

3. Following through // Showing good form, Conner Danaher (9) uses an iron to hit a short shot.

3

4. Perfect putt // After lining up his shot, Abdullha Abdul (9) makes his putt. Abdul showed great improvement during the season, shooting a team-low 84 at the sectional competition.



4

boys' track & field

	Us	Them
LaPorte	73	59
Michigan City	83	31
Ben Davis Relays	5th Place	
Crown Point	69	63
Lake Central	68	64
West Lafayette Relays	2nd Place	
Valparaiso	70.5	61.5
Lime City Relays	1st Place	
Chesterton	81	51
Portage	76	56
DAC meet	2nd Place	
Sectionals	1st Place	
Regionals	1st Place	
State Finals	3 medal winners	

First row: Isaiah Vorice, Matthew Dziewicki, Armani Glass, Edward Akins, Ali Abdullha, Feerahs Dawson, Keylian Brown; **Second Row:** Robert Buggs, Jaden Clark, Brendan Rodgers, Rackesh Ragoo, Justyn Jones, Malachi Williams, Adonnis Johnson, Dre'shon Garrett; **Third Row**: RaShaun Donald, Daijon Gray, Joshua Benton, Korey Parker, Daymond East, Aubin Robinson, Joshua Topps, Daniel Cotton; **Fourth Row:** James Gillespie, Nathan Dye, Jeremiah Howard, Brett Norton, Tyler Henderson; **Fifth Row:** Tylum Moncreace, Jeremiah Williams, Robert Williams, Devon Davis, Leon Roberts, Marvin White, Wesley Davis; **Sixth Row:** Tyjonn Lockett, Nigel Phillips, Gabe Ochoa, Zyriek Nickson, Xavier Griffin, Zaire Moss, Drew Bailey, Oluwaseyi Akinwumi, Dominique Wood; **Seventh Row:** Payton Felton, Anthony Swims, Chaz Sales, Aaron Griggs, Hayden Harmon, Jamar Williams, Davin Latiker, Bernard Morgan; **Back Row:** Coach Gary Lindsey, Coach Luis Lopez, Head Coach Patrick Coffey, Anthony Atria, Devin Pope, Alexander Navarro, Paul Lopez, Coach Anthony Curry, Coach Brian Past.

unified track & field

Front Row: Trinity Thomas, Hanna Stevens, Maleya Hall, Imani Butts, Caitlin Perosky, Kaelyn Austin, Aleni Shomo; **Second Row:** Love Lloyd-Jones, Shaiana Norwood, Justin Setzer, Jaquisha Haymon, Martin Cruz, Torey Young, Jubilee Topps; **Third Row:** James Haymon, Jermani Keys, George Perosky, Prysma Valdivia, Kamera Abram, Savannah Shirley; **Fourth Row:** Erin Sims, Michael Croy, Jhonae Garmon, Maritza Frazier, Alana Winters, Assistant Coach Alicia Lasky; **Back Row:** Asst. Coach Tom Batista, Coach Chris Richardson, Kayla Trotter, Nikola Djukic, Dontrell Pope, Ronald Woods, Westley Jordan

boys' golf

	Us	Them
Calumet	228	241
Boone Grove	184	223
Crown Point	215	159
Valparaiso	215	163
Portage	223	172
Michigan City	223	181
KV Invite	16th Place	
Laporte	209	181
Chesterton	230	149
Lake Central	230	176
Boone Grove Inv	7th Place	

	Us	Them
Crown Point	212	154
Valparaiso	212	151
Lake Central	236	172
Chesterton	236	149
Laporte	255	188
Michigan City	255	197
Portage	201	164
Lake Central Inv	15th Place	
Sectionals	8th Place	

Head Coach: Ben Daniel
Front row: Abdullha Abdul, Conner Danaher; **Back Row:** Asst. Coach Eugene Norton, Justin Villanueva, Keith Rochefort Jr., Kendall Tanniehill, Coach Ben Daniel

Head coach: Kelly Kratz
Front Row: Marisol Ramirez, Caiyla Davis, Romella Bozeman, Cailynn Dilosa, Ty'kia Jones, Kamryn Johnson, Da'Nyjah Wash, Kiyah Walker, Natalie Martinez, Beah Corrales; **Second Row:** Mackenzee Baxter, Aniyah Lopez, Payton McHenry, Jordan Yanders; **Third Row:** Najla Louis, Leah Sams, Natalie Dye, Sonia Baranski, Alenah Guerrero, Brendea McNeal, Diamond Taher, Arianna Chatman; **Fourth Row:** Kayla Trotter, MaKaela Patterson, Alexus Palomo, Makayla Scott, Tasha Neal, Janeye Thomas, Alysa Coleman, Shamiya Beasley, Arianna Chatman; **Fifth Row:** Akilah Ware, Ashley Williams Alicia Fields, Prysma Valdivia, Breanna Buggs, Lauren Gunnell, Jordan Barksdale, Emily Lesich; **Back Row:** Coach Chris Richardson, Coach Branden Wesby, Coach Gary Lindsey, Chyna Royster, Meagan Thomas, Bionca Sams, Brittney Williams, Head Coach Kelly Kratz, Distance Coach Mike Hoffman.

girls' track

	Us	Them
Bulldog Invite	1st Place	
HSR Finals	12th Place	
Laporte	84	48
Michigan City	109	23
Lafayette Jeff	4th Place	
Crown Point	75	57
Lake Central	46	86
West Lafayette Relays	5th Place	
Valparaiso	75	57
Lime City Relays	3rd Place	
Chesterton	73.5	58
Portage	102	30
DAC Meet	3rd Place	
Sectionals		
Lowell	2nd Place	
Regionals		
Portage	4th Place	
State Finals		
Indiana University	2 medalists	

softball

Head Coach: Adam Fricke
Front Row: Kihya Price, Linyhia Meux-Miller, Siriah Taylor, Joslyn Munoz, Maria Guardiola; **Second Row:** Jamia Harris, JaDavia Gavin, Kayla Alcox, Paige Wood, Mia Unmisig; **Back Row:** Head Coach Adam Fricke, Tajanae Toney, Tonya Gray, Bailey Rapavi, Alexis Ramos, Assistant Coach Amber Welsh

	Us	Them
Highland	0	13
Valparaiso	1	13
Morton	0	12
Kouts	0	12
Michigan City	2	18
LaPorte	3	19
Lake Central	0	16
Chesterton	0	18
Crown Point	0	10
Griffith	0	15
Lowell	0	12
Valparaiso	0	15
LaPorte	4	14
Wheeler	2	12
Michigan City	10	13
Lake Central	0	11
Chesterton	0	18
Portage	3	14
Hammond	16	3
Hobart	7	17
Andrean	3	12
Crown Point	10	0
Boone Grove	11	0
Sectionals		
Portage	10	0

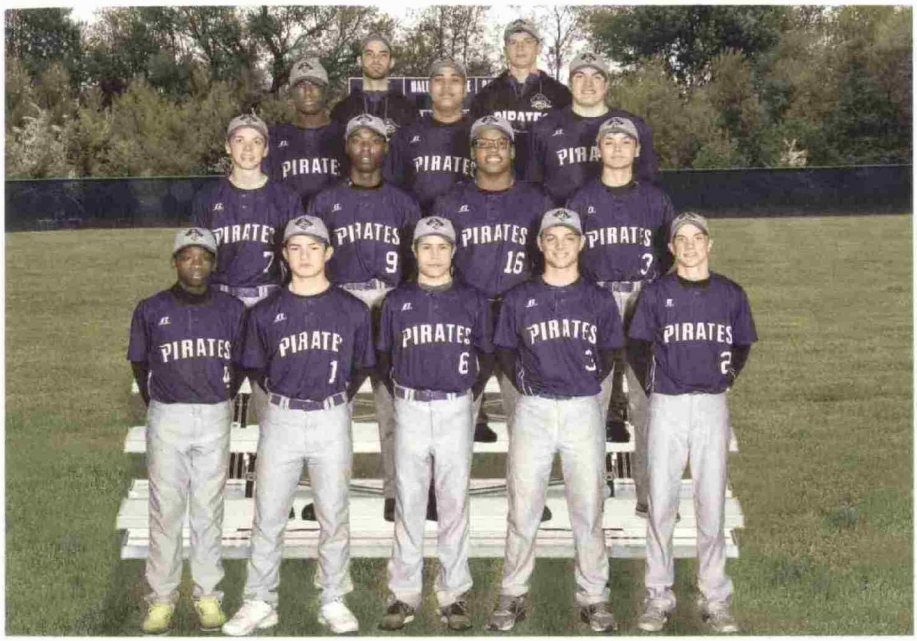
jv softball

Head Coach: Adam Fricke
Front Row: Diamond Sanders, Aaliyah Perry, Ayonna Taylor, Jazmyn Velazquez, Aeryana Smith; **Second Row:** Tyanna Williams, Tatiana Gilbert, Arianna Davis, Rosharia Crawford, Jamala Crosby; **Back Row:** Head Coach Tom Kelly, Jacqueline Martinez, Samaria Patrick, Emilie Leifelt, Taira Amisu, Assistant Coach Amanda Banashak

varsity baseball

Head Coach: Paul Wirtz
Front Row: Maxwell Govert, Jacob McDonald, Anthony Rivera, Austin Pupek, Reginald Carter, Juan Maldonado; **Second Row:** Sven Strom, Vincente Altieri, Maurice Weaver, Jon Spates, Israel Woods; **Third Row:** Bryan Fields, Brandon Lucero, Armon Peloza, Antoine King; **Back Row:** Assistant Coach Joey Traina, Coach Mike Siwy, Head Coach Paul Wirtz, Coach Connor Buxton

	Us	Them
Hobart	8	11
Washington	7	7
Laporte	1	12
	2	10
Michigan City	3	11
	1	12
Lowell	5	0
Lake Central	4	20
	1	6
KV	8	10
Hammond Clark	14	4
Chesterton	0	10
	4	7
Rensselaer	3	4
Portage	2	12
	0	7
Crown Point	0	10
	3	7
Wheeler	10	9
Highland	0	4
Valparaiso	0	4
	5	4
Bishop Noll	4	1
West Lafayette	3	1
	6	8
Sectional		
Chesterton	0	17



jv baseball

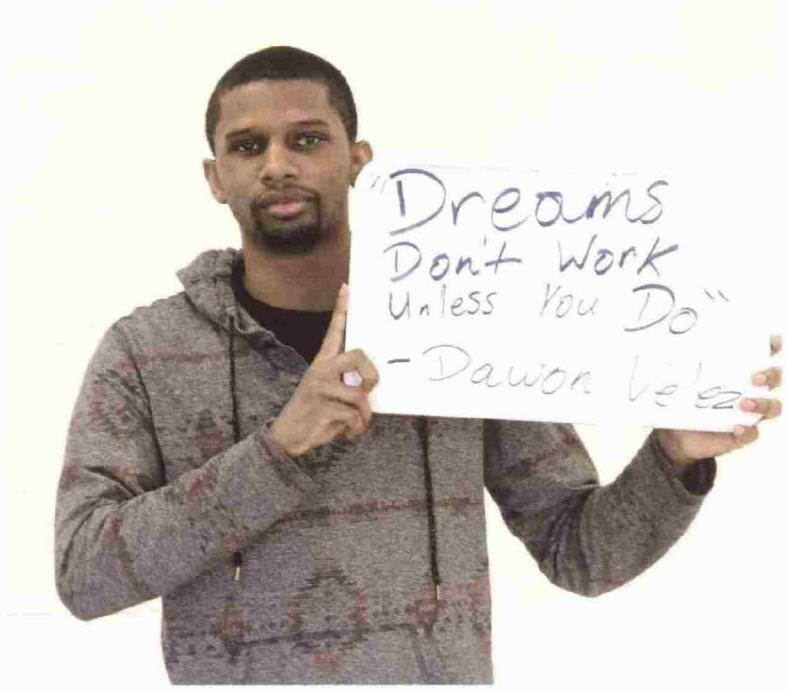
Head Coach: Paul Wirtz
Front Row: Dylan Coty, Vincent Medina, Mason Martisauskas, Anthony Rivera, Tim Sunny; **Second Row:** Joshua Brady, Angelo Winfield, Marc Guerrero, Nicholas Knight; **Third Row:** Javonte Higgins, Micah Gholson, Tyson Adams; **Back Row:** Coach Joey Traina, Coach Conner Buxton

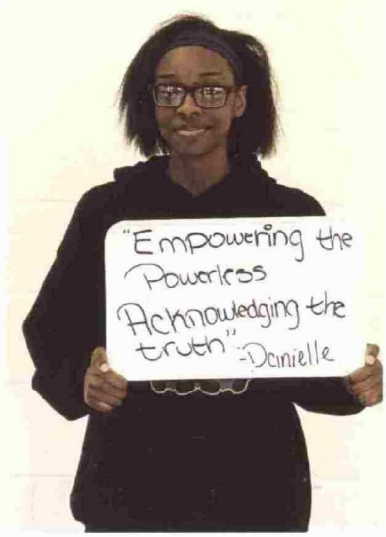
girls' tennis

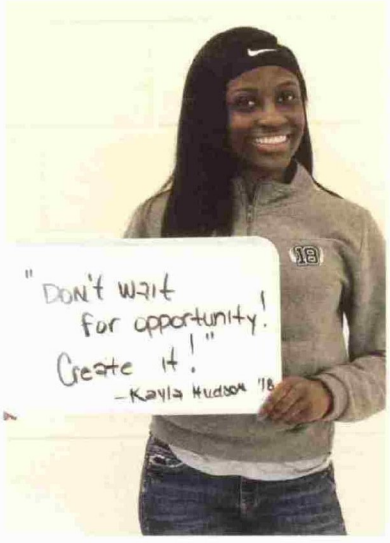
Head Coach: Lonnie Wooden
Front Row: Aysia Kirklen, Maria Tan, Ashlyn Robinson, Kamri Smith, Carly Gubitz; **Second Row:** Scarlett Peralta, Cheyenne Figueroa, Katelyn Vinson, Allure Calhoun, Sonnet Smith; **Third Row:** Faith Collins, Madison Bullock, Sydney Jackson, SanTana Southall; **Back Row:** Lonnie Wooden, Nijaia Jones, Laila Barnes, Asst. Coach Nygel Jackson, Ivan Sahagun

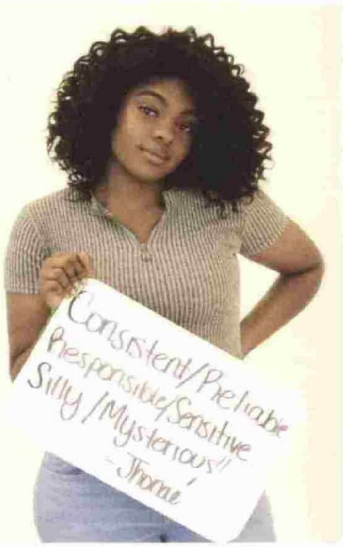
	Us	Them
Highland	2	3
Boone Grove	4	1
Portage	1	4
Hanover/Lowell Inv	5th Place	
Whiting	1	4
Chesterton	0	5
Lowell	3	2
Lake Central	0	5
Michigan City	0	5
Crown Point	0	5
Wheeler	4	1
KV	2	3
Laporte	0	5
Valparaiso	0	5
Hobart	0	5
Sectionals		
North Newton	1	4
Hobart	0	5

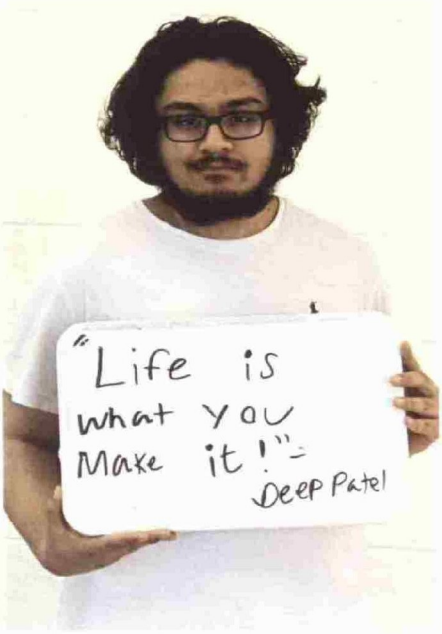
Our six-word stories

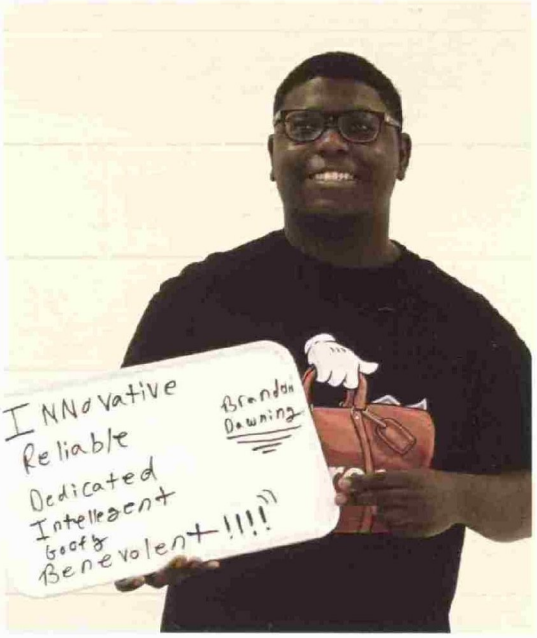




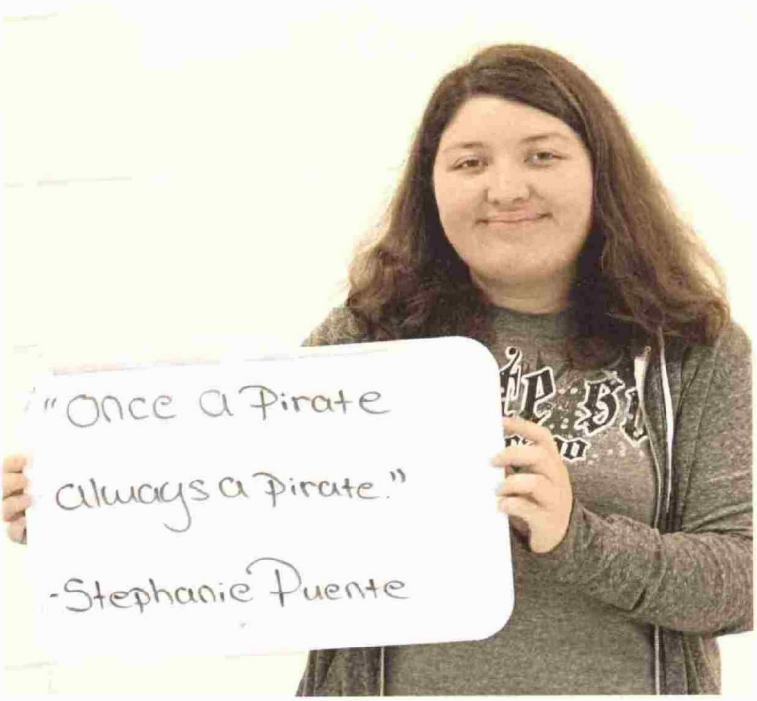


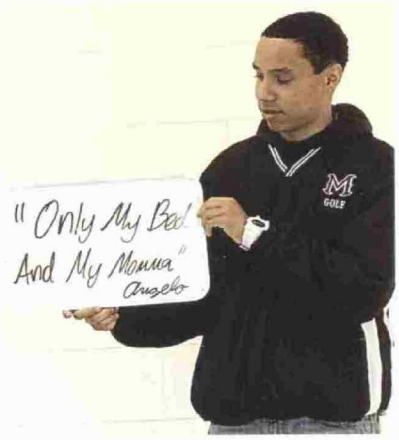


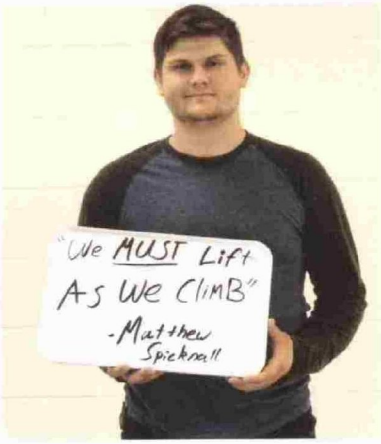


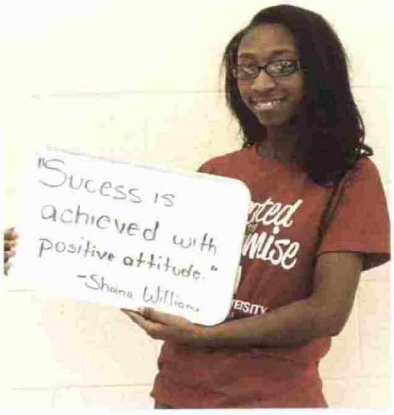


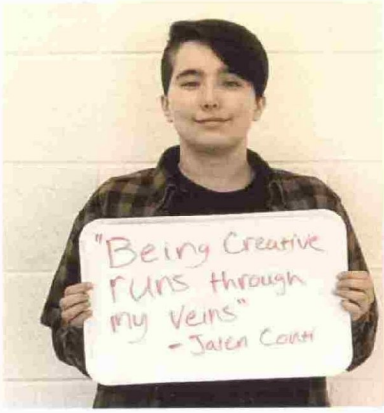
Photos by I. Johnson

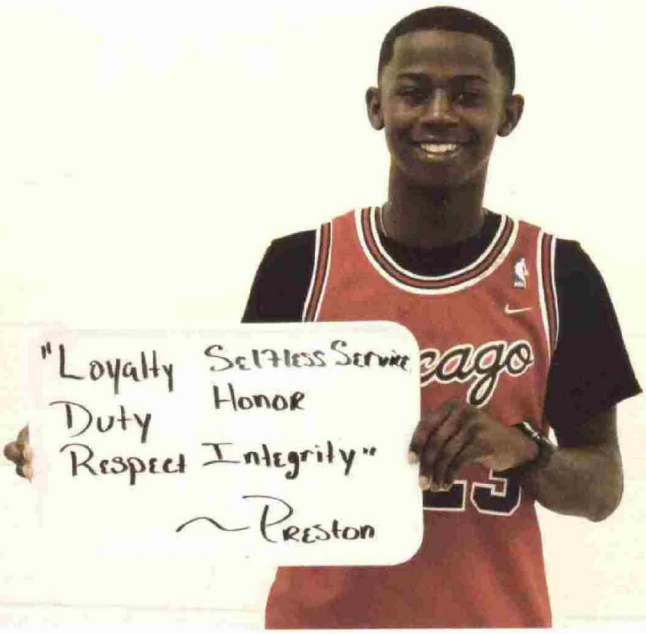

"Once a Pirate
always a Pirate."
-Stephanie Puente

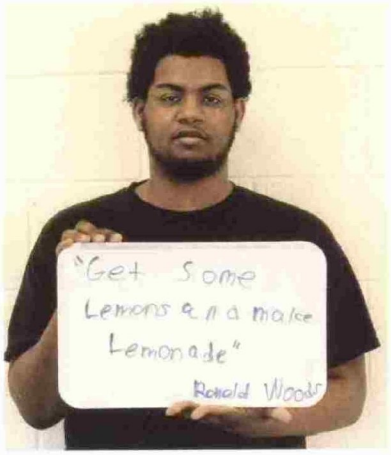

"Only My Bed
And My Momma"
Angelo


"We MUST Lift
As We ClimB"
-Matthew
Spickna"

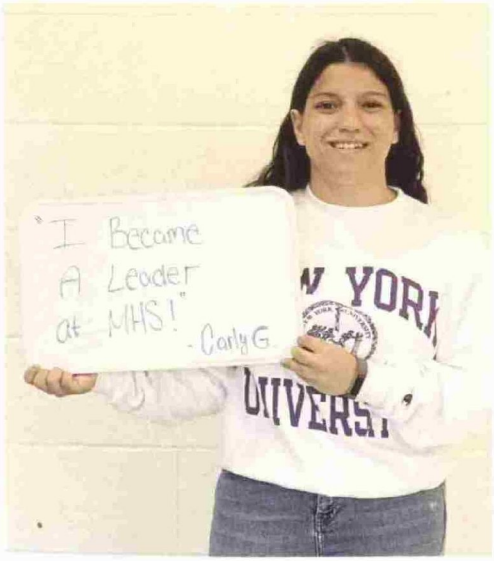

"Sucess is
achieved with
positive attitude."
-Shaina Williams

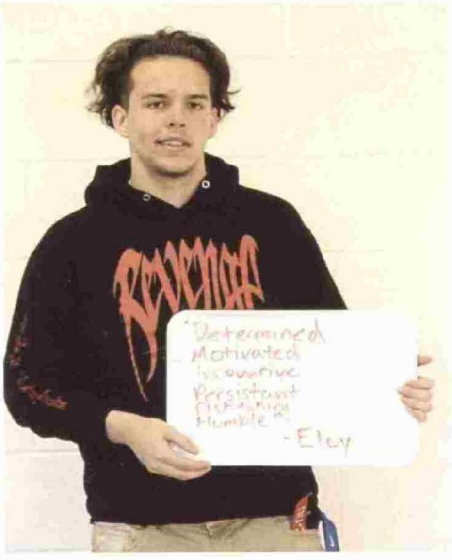

"Being Creative
runs through
my Veins"
- Jaten Conti


"Loyalty Selfless Service
Duty Honor
Respect Integrity"
~Preston


"Get Some
Lemons and make
Lemonade"
Ronald Woods

"Caring, funny, nice
Sympathetic, outgoing,
Smart"
Treasure Green

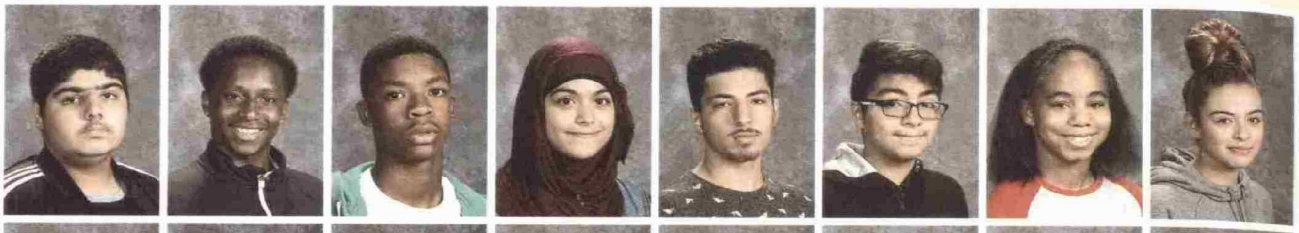

"I Became
A Leader
at MHS!"
-Carly G.


"Determined
Motivated
Innovative
Persistent
Humble"
-Eloy

"THE TOUGH
ONE'S ALWAYS
IN CONTROL!"
Keema Elliott

Class of 2021

Abdullha Abdul
Edward Akins
Roy Akins
Jameelah Ali
Mazen Ali
Nathaniel Almaguer
Jada Amacker
Yvette Anaya



Jaida Anderson
Eli'jah Annan
Angelina Aponte
Ta'Nya Arnett
Brianna Baeza
Ariana Bandy
Juwan Bandy
Eloiso Barajas

Sonia Baranski
Jaylen Barber
Laila Barnes
Makaila Barnes
Dylan Barnett
Sierra Barron
Axel Beltran-Peralta
Fernando Bernabe

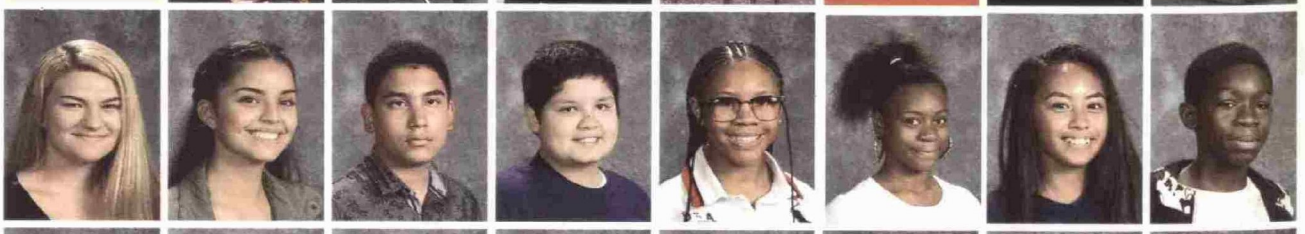
Roderick Bethel
Damon Bigham
Tyler-Andre Blackman
Kaitlin Bowens
Carlin Bracey
Cle'A Bray
Pedro Briseno
Darius Britt

David Brnicky
Jesse Broom
Krislyn Brown
Jheulyus Buchanan
Heavenly Bullard
Iyana Butler
Aniyha Bynum
Ariana Campbell

Christopher Campbell
Michael Campbell
Jacob Cantu
Laylah Carson
Alexis Cast
Jesus Chaidez
Desmond Chambliss
Erik Chavez

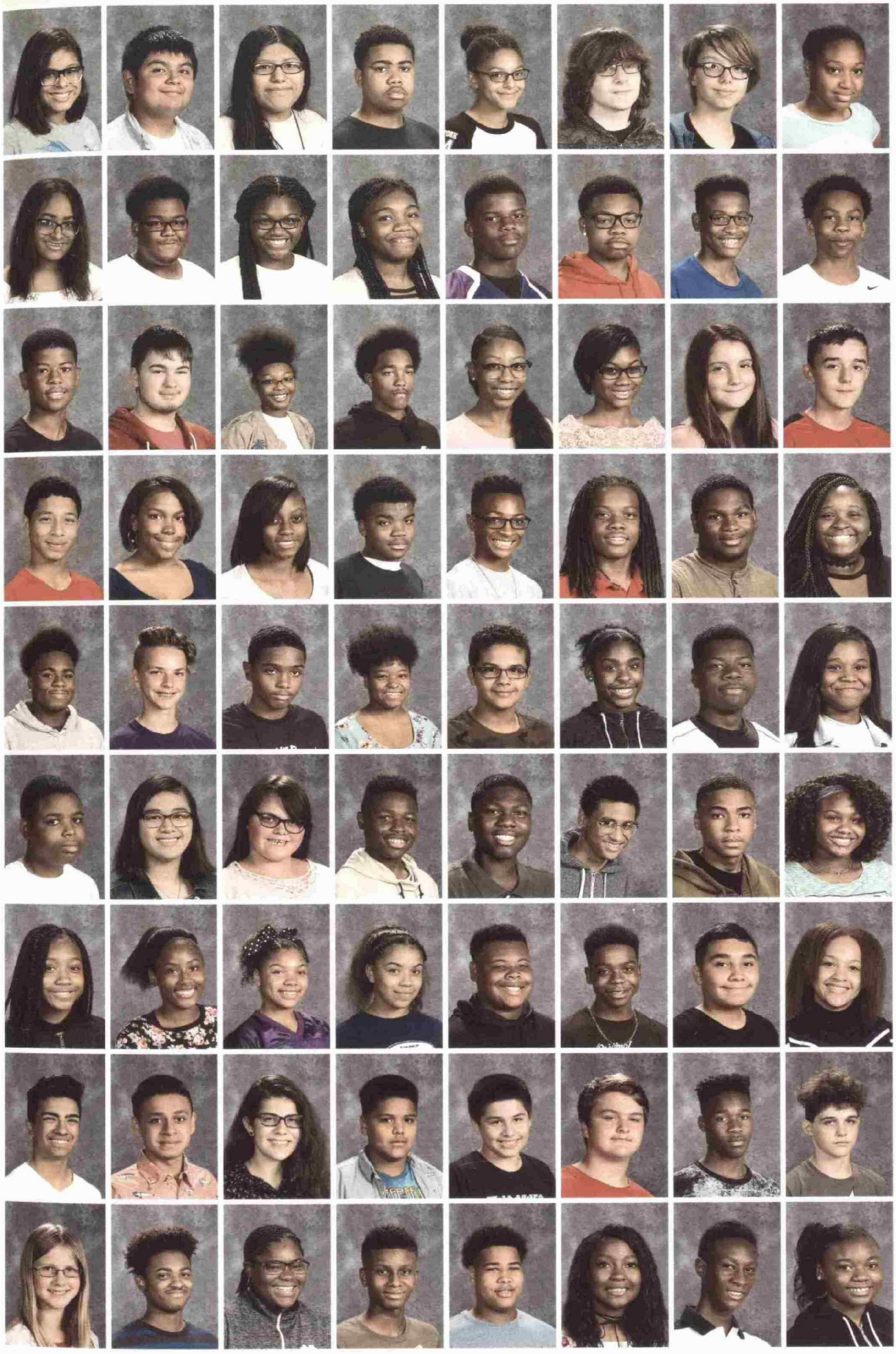
Trenton Clark
Jada Clark-O'Neal
Tanaiya Clemons
Ma'Shyia Coates
Cam'Ren Cole
Elijah Collins
Faith Collins
Jordan Collins

Lilly Colwell
Britney Contreras
Noel Contreras
Salvador Contreras
Iyana Cook
Nadia Cooper
Beah Corrales
Dylan Coty



Jordin Cowherd
Ahlanna Craft
Avril Crawford
Kiley Creal
Lemisha Crenshaw
Aajaidin Crim
Aaniejah Crim
Malynna Cruz

Class of 2021



Mialani Cruz
Alexis Cuazitl
Angelica Cuazitl
Dorian Cunningham
Mindie Cuozzo
Conner Danaher
Kayla Danaher
Sariya Dates

Miracle Davenport
Jacobi Davies
Arianna Davis
Clorinda Davis
Devon Davis
Don Davis
Johnny Davis
Koron Davis

Malik Davis
Tyler Davis
Essence Dawson
Feerahs Dawson
Chanel Day
Lovie Deloney
Paige Denisiuk
Sean Dennehe

Moises Diaz Cora
Myia Dickerson
Cailynn Dilosa
Lance Dixon
RaShaun Donald
Jayln Dortch
Jaheim Doss
Lauryn Dubose

Dezman Dukes
Matthew Dziewicki
Reece Echarry
Ayanna Edwards
Izayeh Edwards
Raven Edwards
Yantis Edwards
Zion Elliott

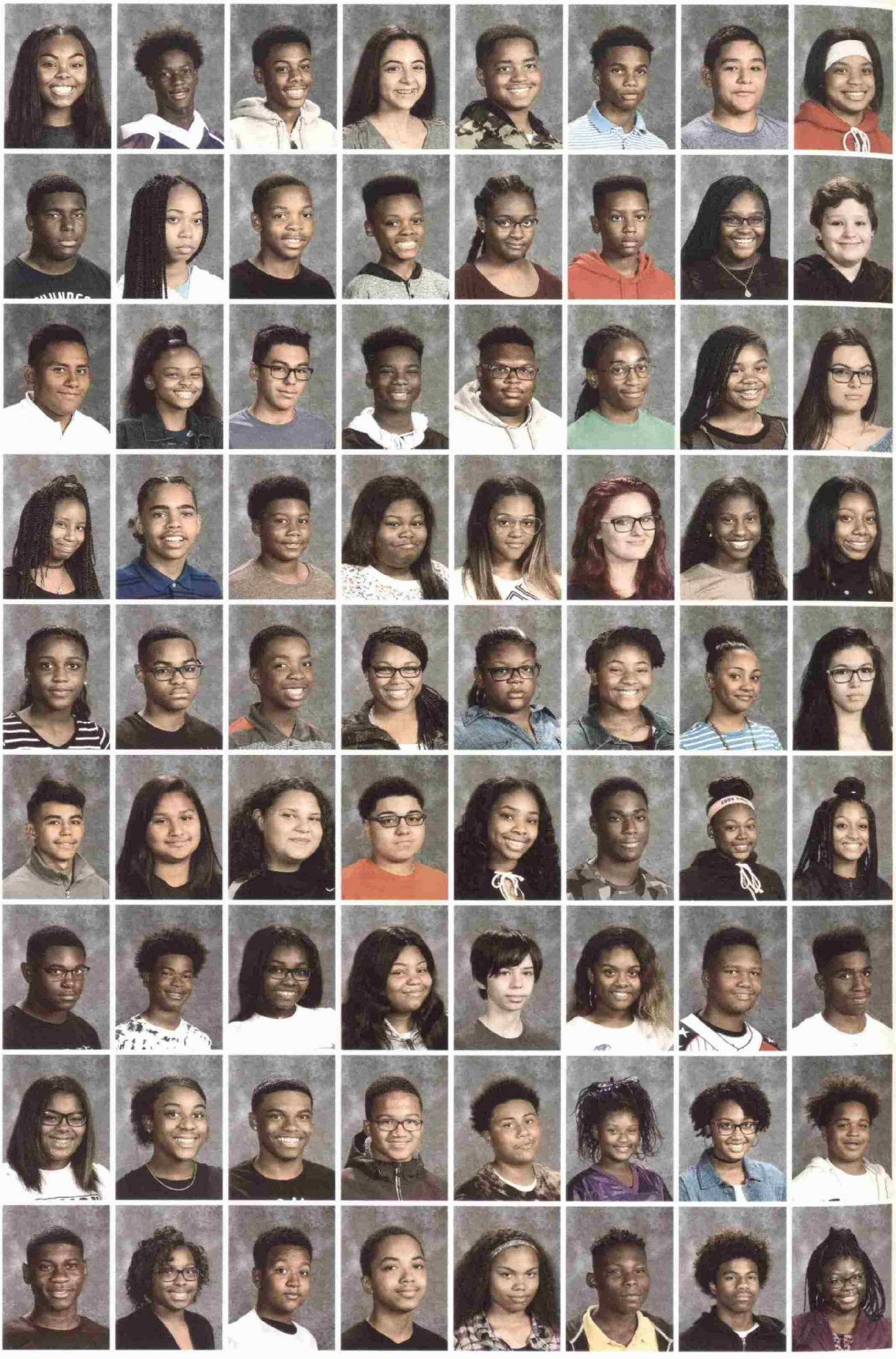
Devin English
Erin Escobar
Alexandra Evans
Mikel Evans
Reginald Fairley
Christian Farmer
Randall Ferguson
Trinity Fields

Donna Fisher
Sharell Fleming
Marissa Ford
Alexis Fox
Kenyai' Fuller-Smith
Brandon Gaines
Ivan Gallegos
Javiera Gamble

Xavier Gamino
Adrian Garcia
Alexis Garcia
Juan Garcia
Leopoldo Garcia
Zion Garcia
Shawn Gardner
John Garner

Faith Garrett
Leon Garrett
Shamari Garrett
Jordan Gassaway
Micah Gholson
Amia Giddens
Khalil Gilbert
Darmeshia Gillarm

Class of 2021



Naiya Gillespie
Armani Glass
Elijah Glenn
Meghan Godinez
Christian Golden
Timothy Golden
Alexander Gomez
Micah Grady

Jaqai Gray
Angel Green
Kameron Green
Ronald Greene
Jordyn Greer
Ce'Vion Griffin
Naomi Griffin
Katrina Griffith

Nahum Guerrero Ministro
Lauren Gunnell
Marcus Gutierrez
Malik Guy
Ronald Guydon
Malik Hall
Kennedy Halliburton
Amira Hamed

Talisha Hampton
Justin Harris
Ruben Harris
Vayonda Harris
Hillary Hathaway
Kyla Haughee
Amiah Hawkins
Katelynn Hawkins

Nasya Hawkins
Charles Haymon
James Haymon
Abreona Heath
Patrice Heath
Kennedy Henderson
Aiyana Hernandez
Alexia Hernandez

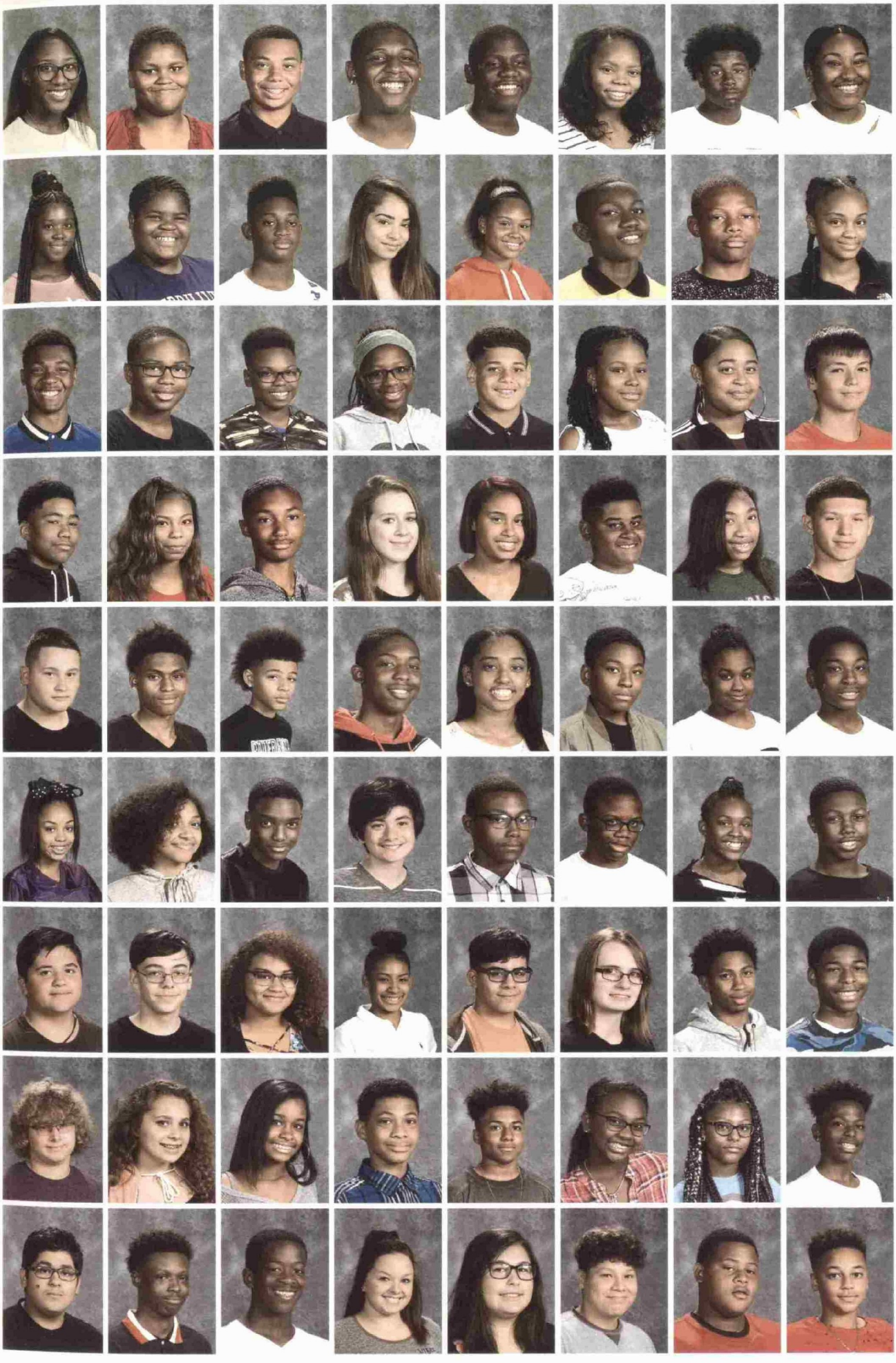
Ceasar Hernandez
Andrea Hernandez Mejia
Arianna Herrod
Raymond Heston
Erin Hicks
Javonte Higgins
Cassie Hill
Jhada Hodge

Deonte' Holbrook
Ryan Hollingsworth
Zaria Hopkins
Erika Housen
Joseph Housman
Aaliyah Hudson
Joseph Humphrey
Isiah Hunter

Tayya Ingram
Jayda Ireland
Quintin Ireland
William Iverson
Danyell Jackson
Sydney Jackson
Emyrson Jenkins
Jahaan Jenkins

Jaron Jenkins
Trinity Jenkins
Angelo Jimerson
Anthony Johnson
Brianna Johnson
Ja Ree Johnson
Jacob Johnson
Jakia Johnson

Class of 2021



Kamryn Johnson
LaNieia Johnson
Moneye' Johnson
Tyon Johnson
Casimir Jones
Daija Jones
Jakobe Jones
Jalynn Jones

Kaila Jones
Makayla Jones
Sirrell Jones
Alexzandrea Joseph
Jazmine Joseph
Damon Joshua
Jorryn Junigan
Layla Kellom

Dierre Kelly
Dallas King
Eric King
Jada King
Avery Kirk
Aysia Kirklen
Diamond Klyce
Nicholas Knight

Charles Kyles
Lakyla Lampkin
Jeremie Lander
Madeline Langer
Darlenys Lantigua
Jhaiden Lastic
Kashanna Lee
Xavier Leech

Mario LeGrand
Mark Leon
Auron Lewis
Darius Lewis
Diamond Lewis
Everett Lewis
Faith Lewis
Nicholas Lewis

Destiny Lilly
Arianna Limon
Dante Lipford
Gavin Lipsky
Deveon Lipson
Joseph Livingston
Love Lloyd-Jones
Kobe Lomax

Adrian Lopez
Alexander Lopez
Alyssa Lopez
Aniyah Lopez
Gabriel Lopez
Sophia Lotkowski
Marquis Louden
Tristian Lowe

Tye Lundin
Elizabeth Lungu
Jymere Luter
Justin Lyles
Ronell Lyles
Laila Lynch
Jessia Mack
A'Veyawn Madry

Pedro Magana
Londell Magee
Jeremiah Mahone
Caitlyn Makarowski
Leah Mallon
Elijah Mariani
Brandon Marshall
Donnicci Marshall

Class of 2021

TaMar Marshall
Abreia Marshall-Harbin
Preston Martin
Eli Martinez
Jacqueline Martinez
Marcos Martinez
Natalie Martinez
Clifford Mathis-Billups

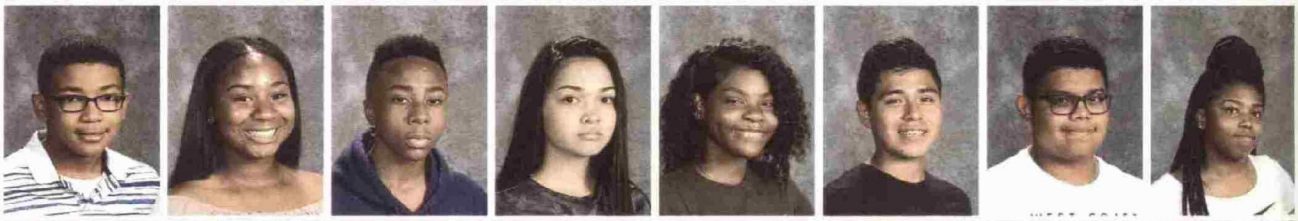
Ah'nya Matthews
Siman McElroy
Jordan McGee
Timia McGraw
Kayla McKinney
Haley Meadows
Iyanna Medina
Vincent Medina

Nijah Meux
Alvaro Meza De La Torre
Stephanie Millan
Christopher Miller
DaShonte' Miller
Jordyn Miller
Savion Miller
Torri Miller

Donavan Mills
Kejuan Mitchell
Antwoine Mobley
Monica Moncada
Essience Moore
Imari Moore
Nevaeh Moore
Jaylin Moorer

Aaliyah Moreno
Hayley Moss
Cesar Munoz
Mylia Myricks
Keandra Nabors
Horatio Nalls
Xavier Nelson
Daniela Nevarez

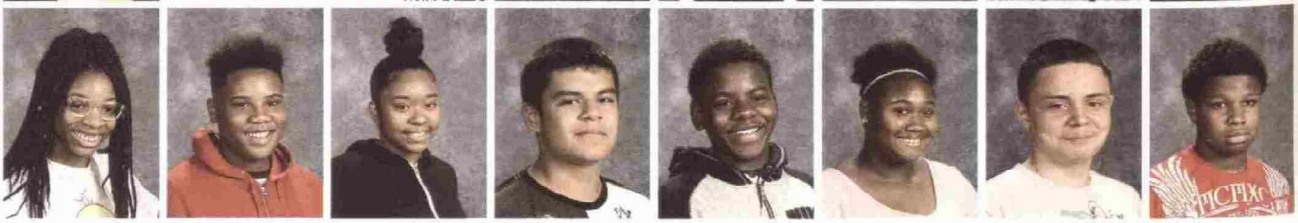
Avante' Nielson
Alyssa Noland
Olusoji Oduneye
Ashley Okemura
Oluwashayo Oloyede
Angel Paniagua
Kevin Paredes
Jasmine Patterson



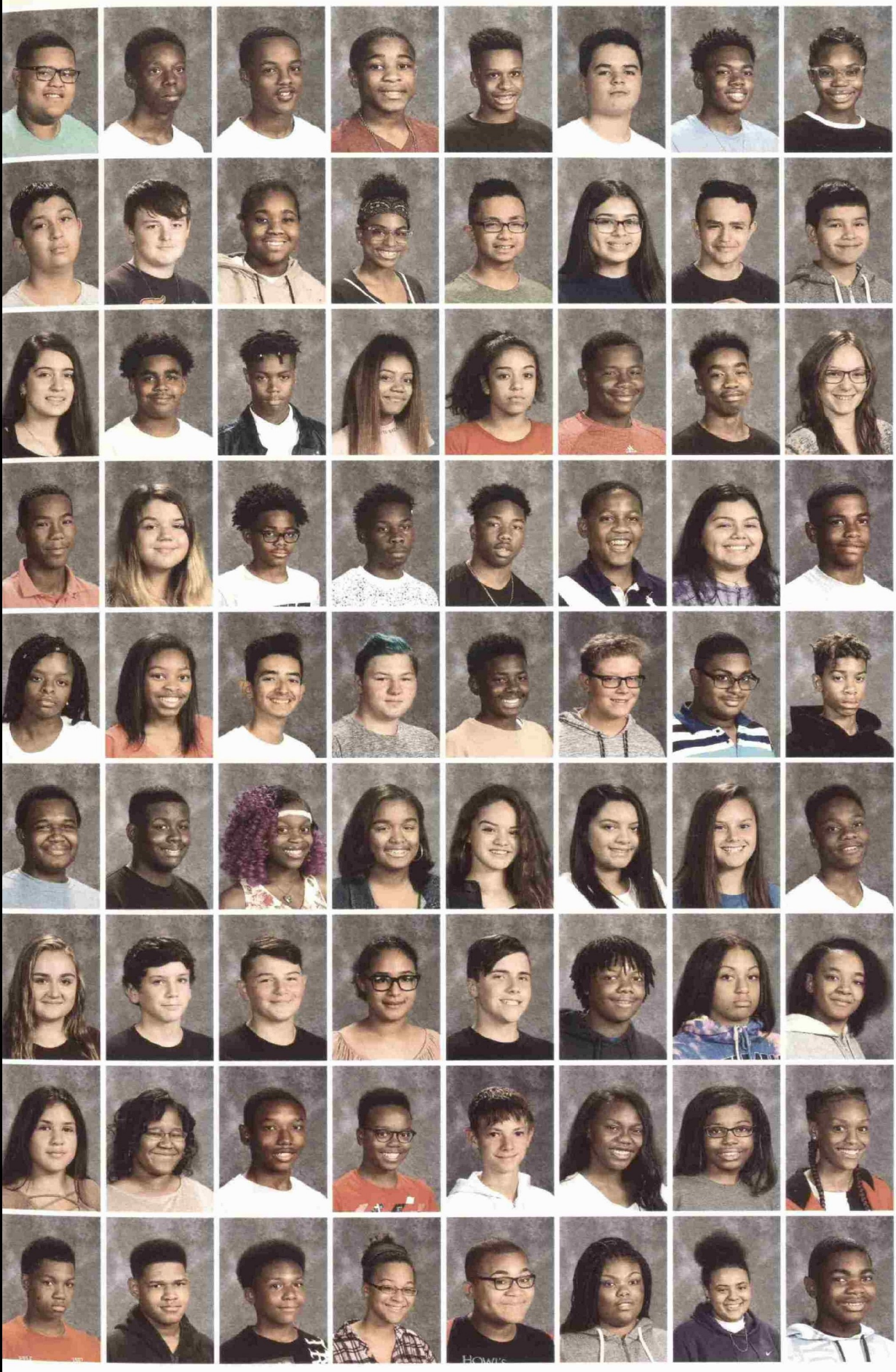
Michelle Patterson
Aleksandar Pejovski
Johnny Peluyera
Iysis Perez
Kayla Perry
Breijon Peters
Carrol Phillips
John Pirtle

Allison Polk
Elijah Porter
Austin Powell
Naomi Powell
Austin Pupek
Elizabeth Quinones-Maldonado
Christopher Ray
Micah Rayburn

Kaylee Redfield
Eugene Redmond
Ashley Reyes
Julian Reyes
Tyrone Reynolds
Allison Richardson
Fabian Rivera
Ronald Roberson



Class of 2021



Joshua Roberts
Lamont Roberts
Leon Roberts
Alexander Robinson
Elijah Robinson
Javier Rodriguez
Brendan Rogers Jr.
Tyzhae Romer

Irving Romero
Kalum Ronning
Princess Ross
Janiyah Russell
Karlo Sadural
Melanie Salamanca
Nathan Salazar Mota
Giovanni Salgado

Jacqueline Salinas
Tyriq Sams
Andre Iv Sanchez
Mickaela Sanchez
Yadira Sanchez
Devin Sanders
Devyn Sandifer
Brianna San Souci

Justin Santana
Emma Schleede
Amarion Scott
Darris Scott
Julian Scruggs
Alijah Sease
Maria Segovia
Messiah Selby

Tierra Sellers
Amyah Selmon
Steven Serrato
Louis Sikorski
William Skinner
Bailey Smith
Demetrius Smith
Isaiah Smith

Johnathan Smith
Jonas Smith
Kylah Smith
Sonnet Smith
Madison Solero
Destiny Solich
Natasha Soweka
Thomas Starks

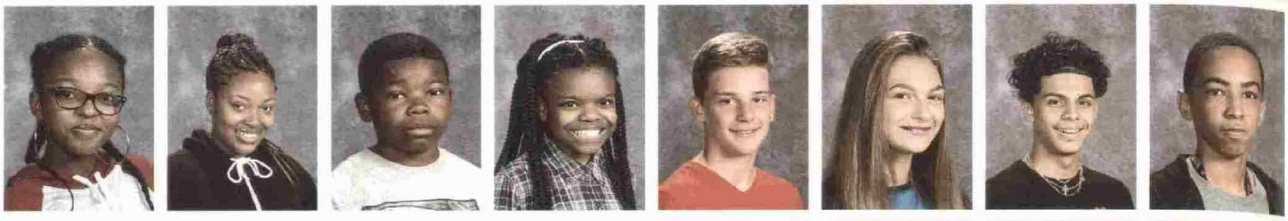
Johanna Steele
Kody Stephens
Jason Streck
Azhia Strong
Ryan Strug
Donald Sturgis
Nadia Swets
Alayia Talbert

Andrea Tapia
Angelle Taylor
D'Andre Taylor
Jarius Taylor-Newman
Noah Terpstra
Kimaya Thomas
Navia Thomas
Sheki'nah Thomas

Keon Thompson
Jhakare Thornton
Martin Thurmond
Andrea Tice
Avery Timmons
Melanie Tinsley
Tajanae Toney
Joshua Topps

Class of 2021

Emane' Triplett
Jayla Turner
Jon Turner
Tia Turner
Shad Ulrich
Mia Unmisig
Ramses Valdez
Christian Vale

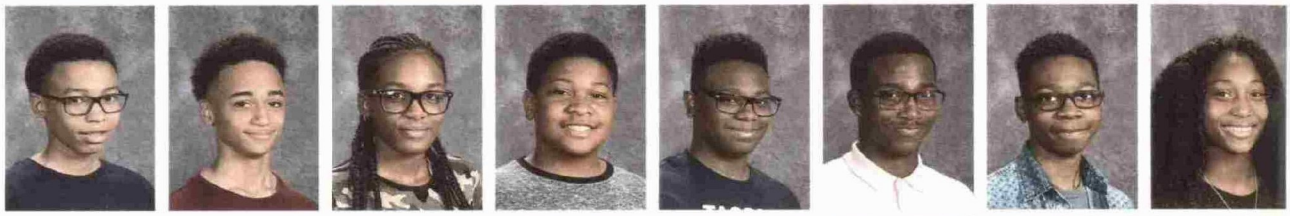


Mersedes Valencia
Stephany Valladares
Jacob Vara
Tiffany Vaughn
Miriam Velasco
Angelica Villarreal
Ari Walker
Elijah Walker

Malik Walker
Abrial Waller
Theodore Walizs
Jayla Wardlaw
Danayja Warren
Da'Marcia Wash
Da'Nyjah Wash
Ahmad Washington

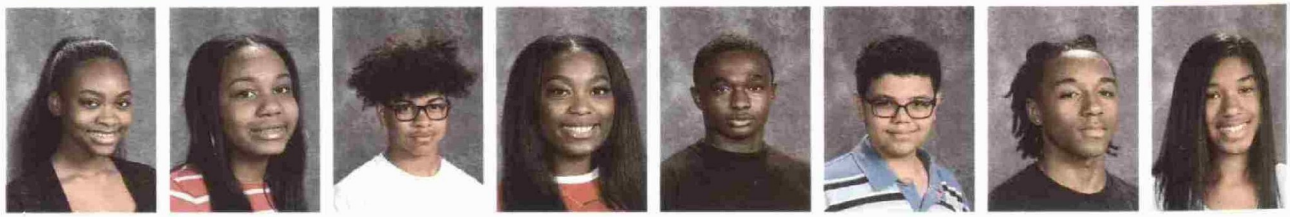
L'Ore'al Washington
Roderick Washington
Samuel Washington
Keywanna Watkins
Ja'Miah Watson
Sierra Weaver
Christopher Webb
Lilly Weber

Arvion West
Camron West
Darshay Weston
Jaydon Wilbon
Alton Wilderness
Aaron Williams
Alexander Williams
Alexia Williams

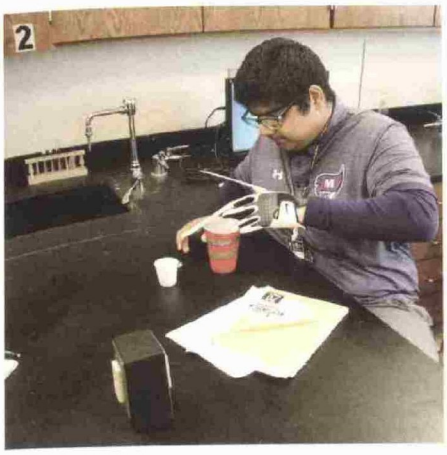


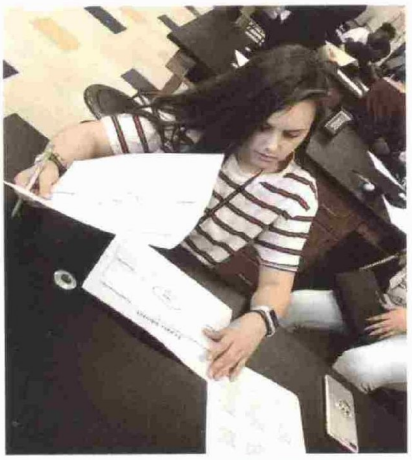
Ashley Williams
Asia Williams
Cameron Williams
Jamar Williams
Kennedy Williams
Marcus Williams
Mikayla Williams
Russell Williams

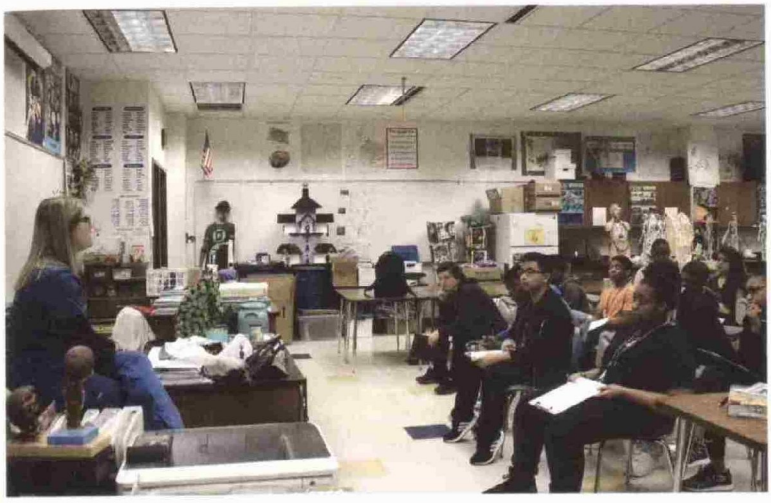
Shania Williams
Hannah Willis
Robert Wilson
Skylar Wilson
De'Ante Windrom
Brendan Wolski
Terrion Woods
Kierra Wylie

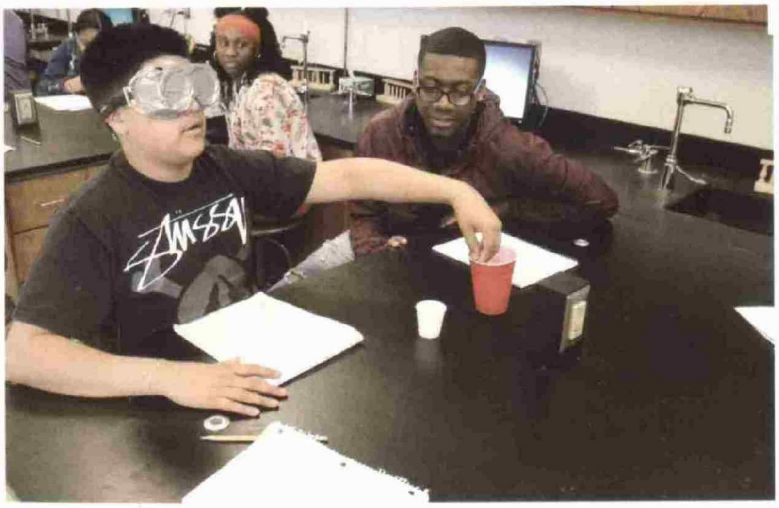


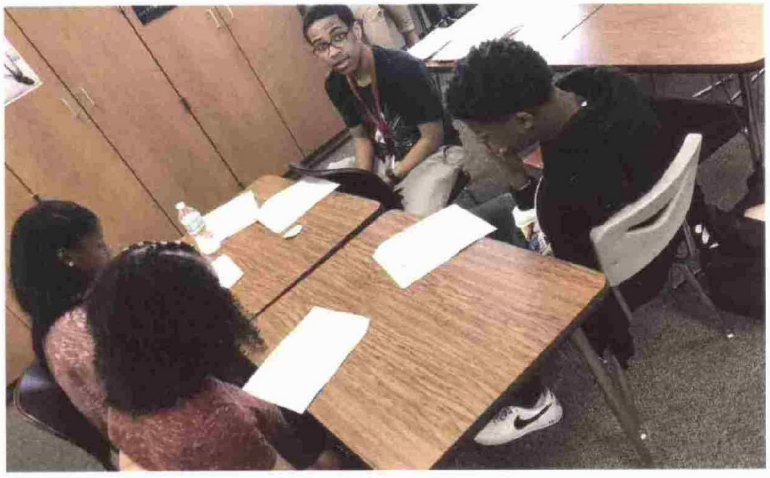
Jordan Yanders
Gavin Yuran

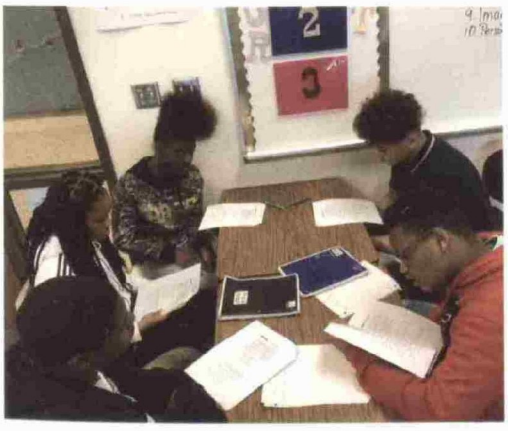


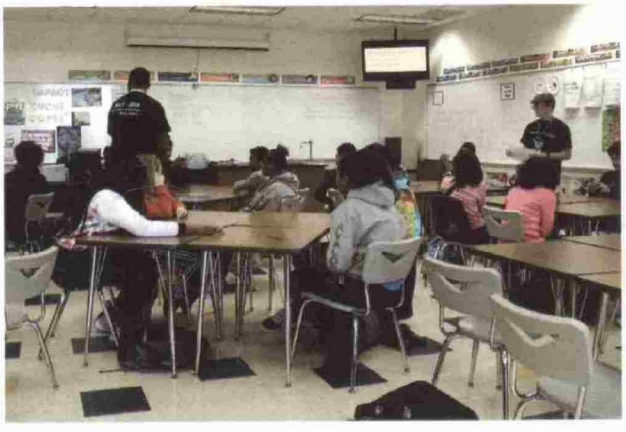


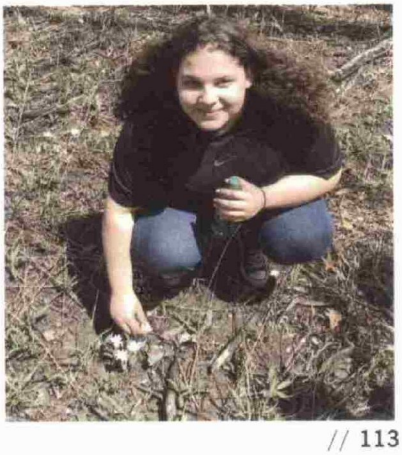






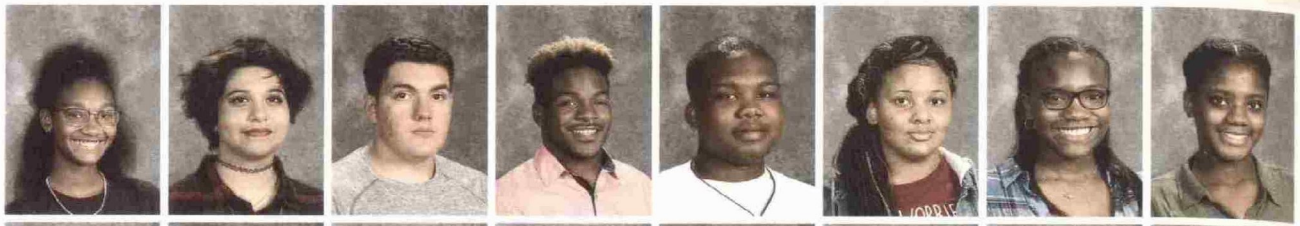






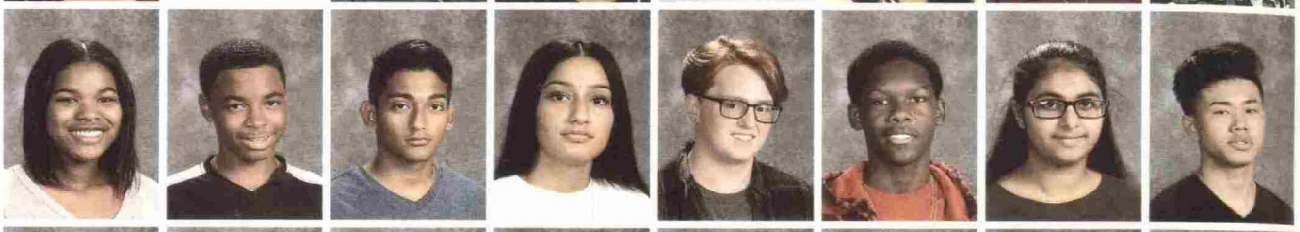
Class of 2020

Kamera Abram
Cecilia Adame-Davalos
Tyson Adams
King Agnew
Damilola Akinbobuyi
Yasmeen Al-Ayyah
Kayla Alcox
Adriene Alexander



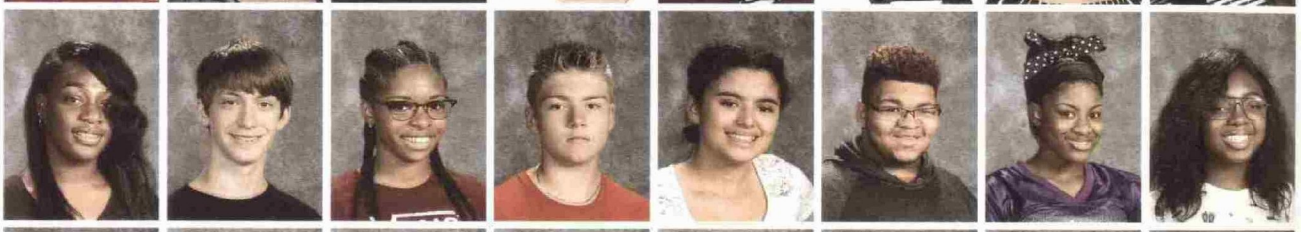
Alexis Alexander
Bobby Allen
Heaven Allen
Desiree Alleyne
Xavier Alston
Amani Alvarez
Taira Amisu
Elijah Anderson

Zaria Anderson
Omarion Andrews
Samuel Anguiano
Gabriela Aponte
Austin Argullin
Beau'shay Armstead
Amnah Asghar
Ephraim Aung

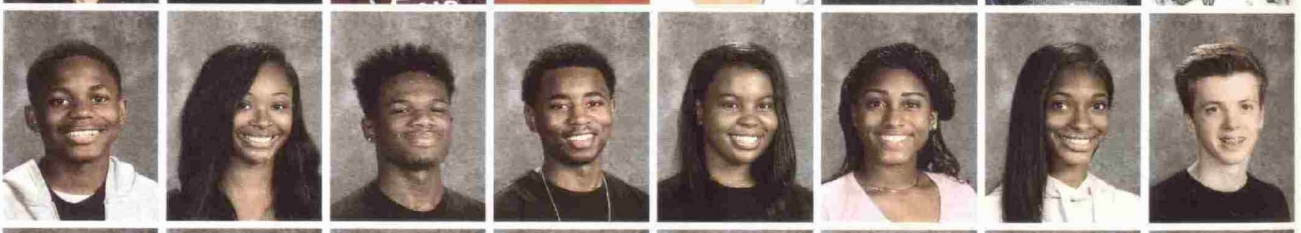


Kaelyn Austin
Azariah Avery
Leonardo Bailey
Tatianna Bailey
Autum Bainbridge
Janae Bandy
Delilah Barajas
Jordan Barksdale

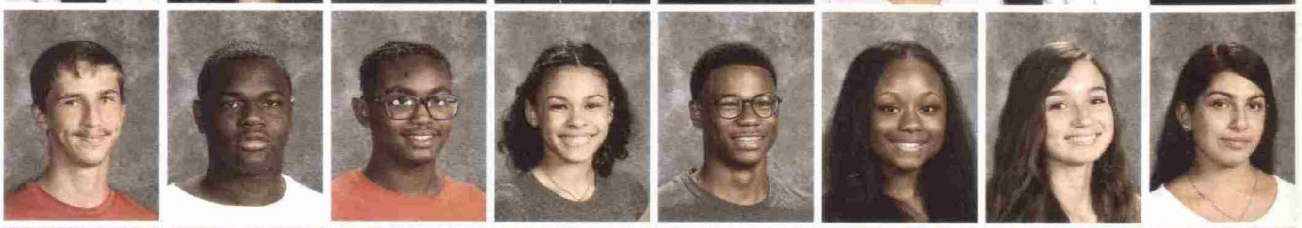
Journey Barksdale
Collin Barron
Shamiya Beasley
Gage Bentley
Dianee Berger
Christopher Best
Antonia Blair
Ariana Booker



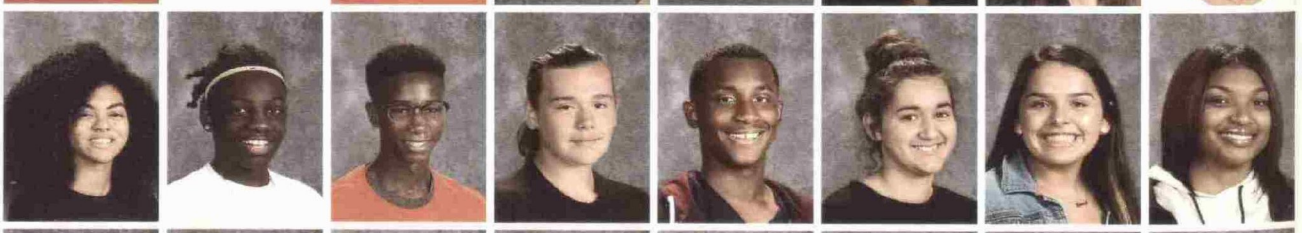
Jordan Booker
Bryanna Boone
Joshua Boone
Imani Bowen
Deonna Bowens
Djarae Boykin
Romella Bozeman
Joshua Brady



Benjamin Brayfield
Joshua Brooks
Tariq Brooks
Mikayla Brookshire
Mark Brown
Princess Brown
Caroline Buckrop
Jennifer Bugarin

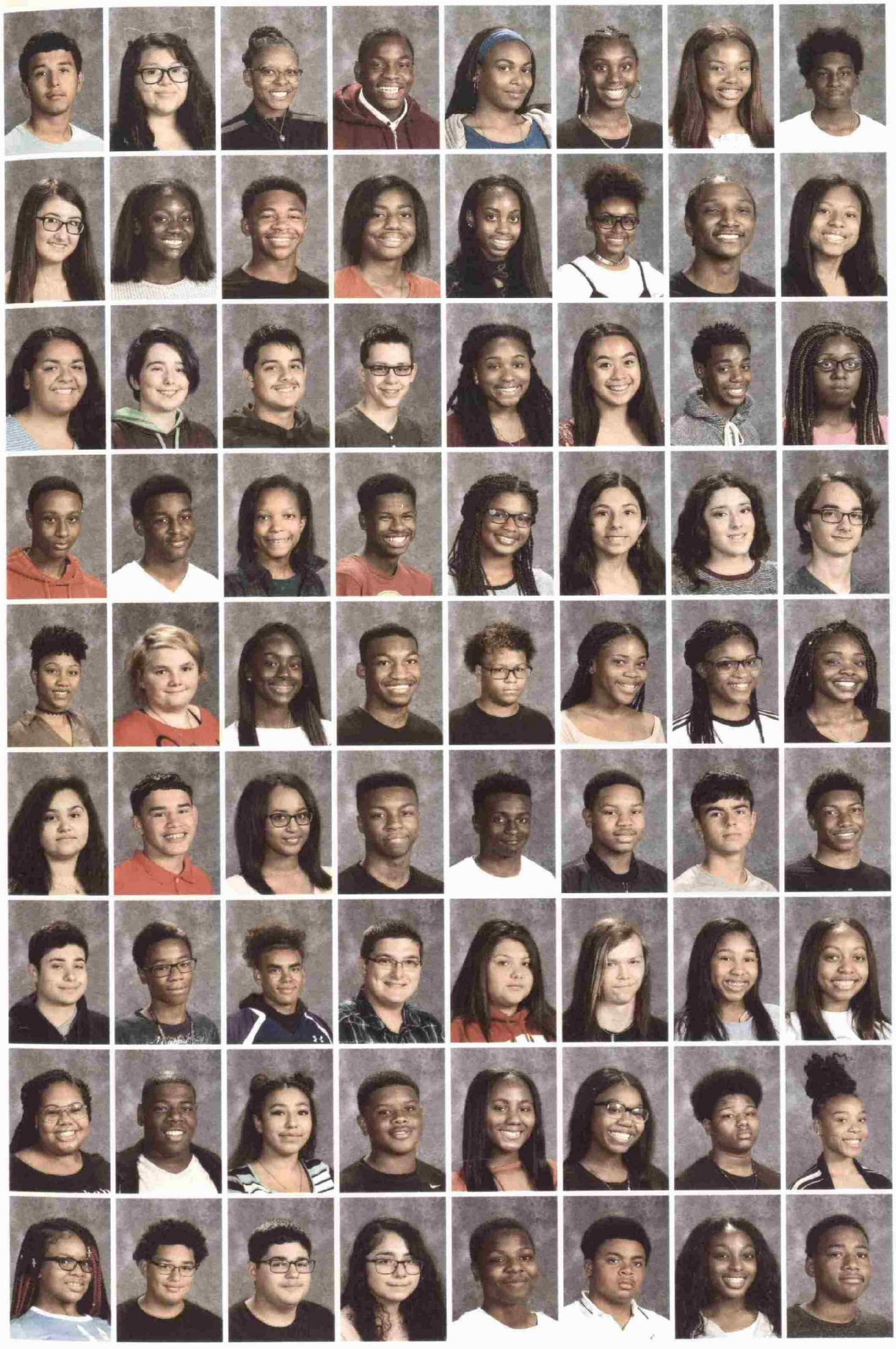


Breanna Buggs
Robert Buggs
K'Lohn Burns
Alexander Butz
Micah Bynum
Ariel Carbajal
Lorena Carbajal
Jorriana Carey



Julian Carrejo
Sebastian Carrillo
Darius Carrington
Lavonne Carson
Shavonne Carson
Adrianna Carter
Isela Casique
Jarrett Cason

Class of 2020



Christopher Castaneda
Laurie Castaneda
Ashanti Castleberry
Antonio Cater
Elecia Catron
Lailoni Chamberlain
Arianna Chatman
Kevin Chatman

Brooklyn Chilcott
Fatou Cisse
Jaden Clark
Armani Cole
Kaiya Cole
Deverieux Coleman
Kristian Collins
Razariah Combs

Kaylee Conner
Jalen Conti
Axel Contreras
Joshua Cook
Keyari Cooper
Jodi Corrales
Daniel Cotton
Ameylah Cox

Jathan Crawley
Elijah Crenshaw
Shawnte Crenshaw
Devon Crews
Jaylah Croft
Keili Cruz
Jacquelyn Cuevas
David Cullum

Sade' Daniel
Samantha Daulton
Caiyla Davis
Courtney Davis
Elijah Davis
Jazreail Davis
Nikea Davis
DeKara Dawson

Joyce Decia
Louis Deluna
Leila Dika
Brian Dilosa
Damian Dixon
Jamarcus Dixon
Nikola Djukic
Steven Dortch

Haob Dos Santos
Terrell Dowell
Eddie Drake
Jordan Dunn
Monique Duque
Michael Duran
Kennedi Durham
Tajah East

Zhanvie' Edmond
Yantrel Edwards
Tatiana Eldridge
Josiah Ellison
Raven Embers
Brittnee English
Bryce Ervin
DaKarri Ervin

Na'yanna Ervin
Kevin Espino
Lorenzo Espinoza
Emily Estefania
William Evans
Jadon Exford
Sharetha Ezeako
Courtney Ferguson

Class of 2020

Ashanta Fields
Anthony Figueroa
Deven Flournoy
Lance Forbes
Kolby Ford
Kristina Ford
Teaun Ford
Kaylee Fortier

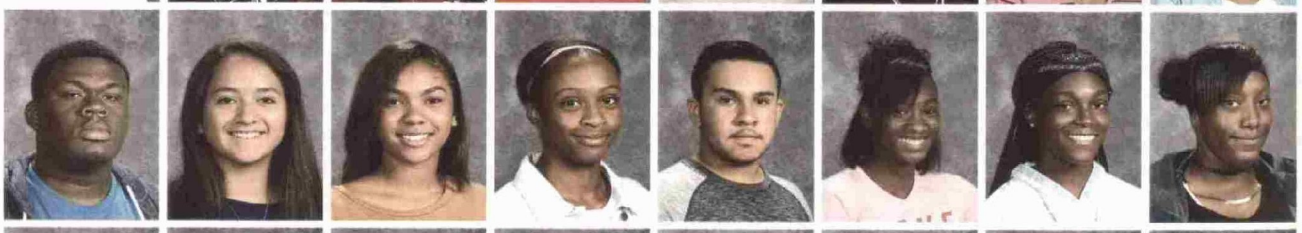
Dionjonae Franklin
Darius Frierson
Joseph Froglia
Makayla Funches
Matthew Gagliano
Tyler Gale
Jaiel Gamble
Anissa Garcia

Emily Garcia
Dreshon Garrett
Briazha Garron
Brylen Gaskin
Alexandria Gholson
Kylie Gidley
Marquis Gilbert
James Gillespie

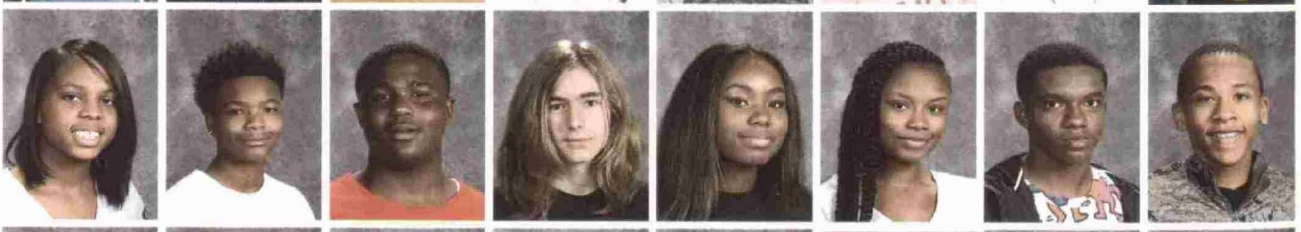
Jalen Givens
Maya Glass
Dominique Golden
Jared Golston
Citlali Gomez
Christian Gonzalez
Yulissa Gonzalez
Emmanuel Gonzalez-Ruiz

Eric Goodes
Gabriell Gordon
Jaihla Gordon
Dale Gough
Terrell Grace
Darius Green
Takiema Green
Robyn Greene

Richard Grey
Maria Guardiola
Alenah Guerrero
Michelle Gunnell
Cristian Gutierrez
Jayda Guyton
Maleya Hall
Kayla Hamdani

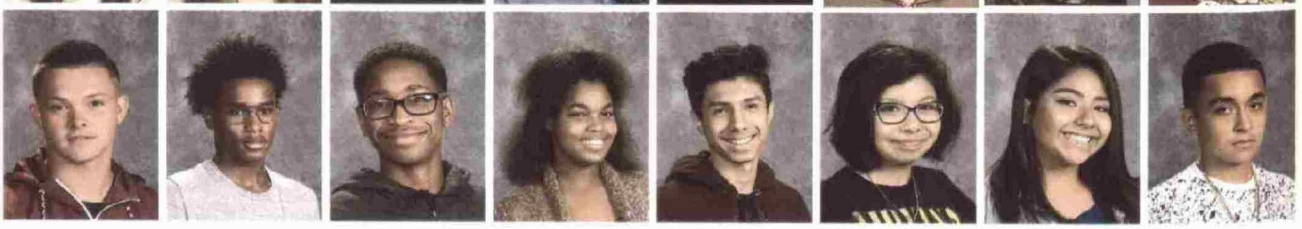


Trinity Hammack
Dejon Hardin
Ja'Tavion Hardy
Garrett Harmon
Chairre Harris
Kaiya Harris
Lindell Harris
Noah Harris

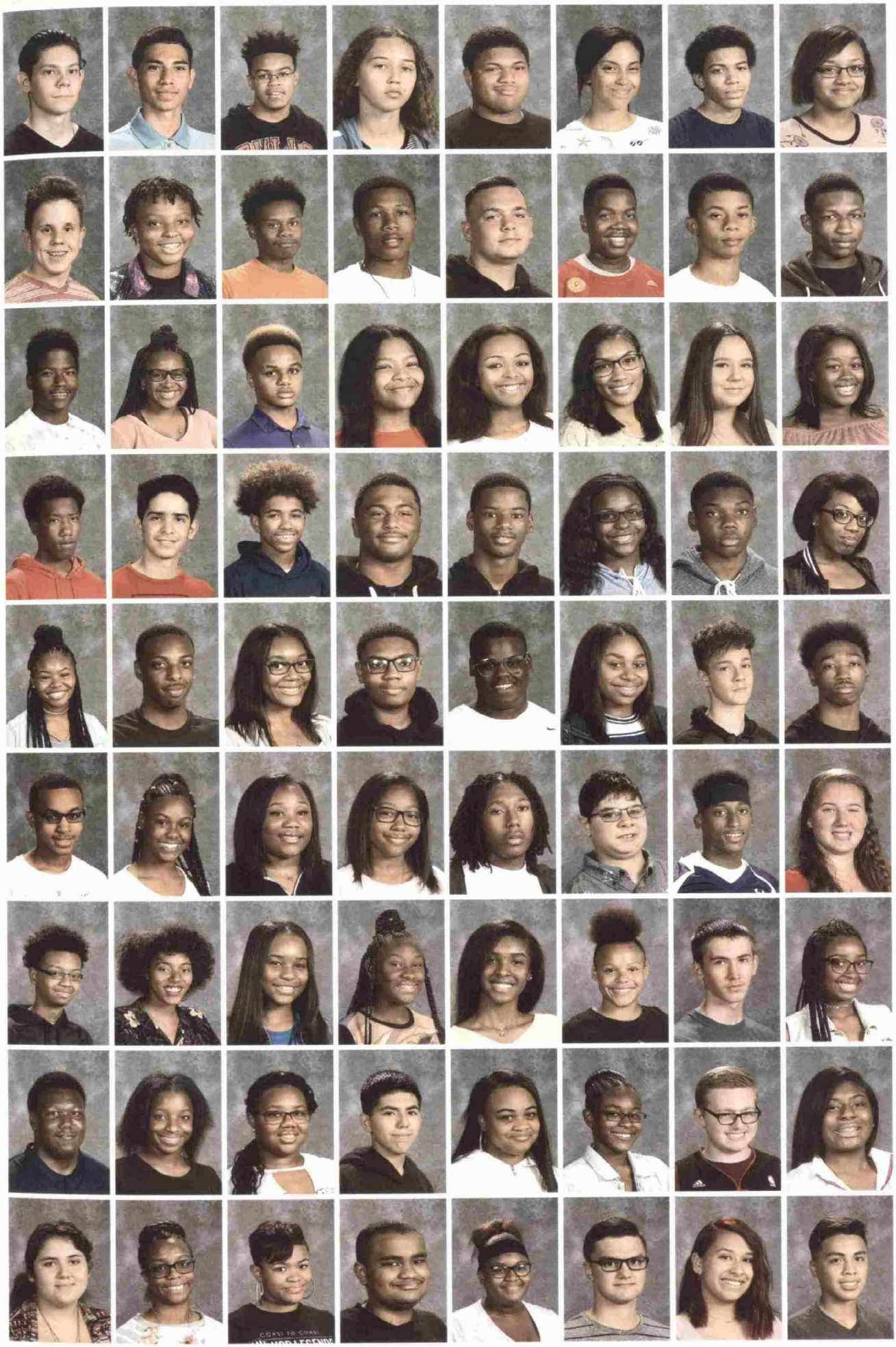


Robert Hasan
Corrin Haughee
Jairius Hayden
Carlaya Hayes
Kenneth Hayes
Jaquisha Haymon
Kristyl Haymon
Deonna Haywood

Steven Hedrick
Christian Hemphill
Isaiah Henderson
Lisa Henderson
Briantt Herman-Gama
Cierra Hernandez
Evelyn Hernandez
Gregorio Hernandez



Class of 2020



Manuel Hernandez
Martin Herrera
Daelon Herron
Sadia Hildebrand
Cayman Holley
Maryann Hollins
Eric Hollowell
Annalise Holmes

Jacob Horvath
Amaya Howard
Jaunte Howard
Jeremiah Howard
Michael Hubbard
Anthony Hudson
Leslie Hudson
Rodney Hudson

Xavier Hughes
Faith Hunter
Brandon Hutton
Jazmine Hytower
Justine Imes
Nadja Ireland
Chasity Irizarry
Breocia Jackson

Jermel Jackson
Ali Jaime
Deondra Jarvis
Jahriel Jenkins
Adonnis Johnson
Alexes Johnson
Darion Johnson
Imani Johnson

Janice Johnson
Terryon Johnson
Keyerra Jolley
Jaylen Jones
Justyn Jones
Darriona Jordan
Jacob Josleyn
Marcus Kendrick

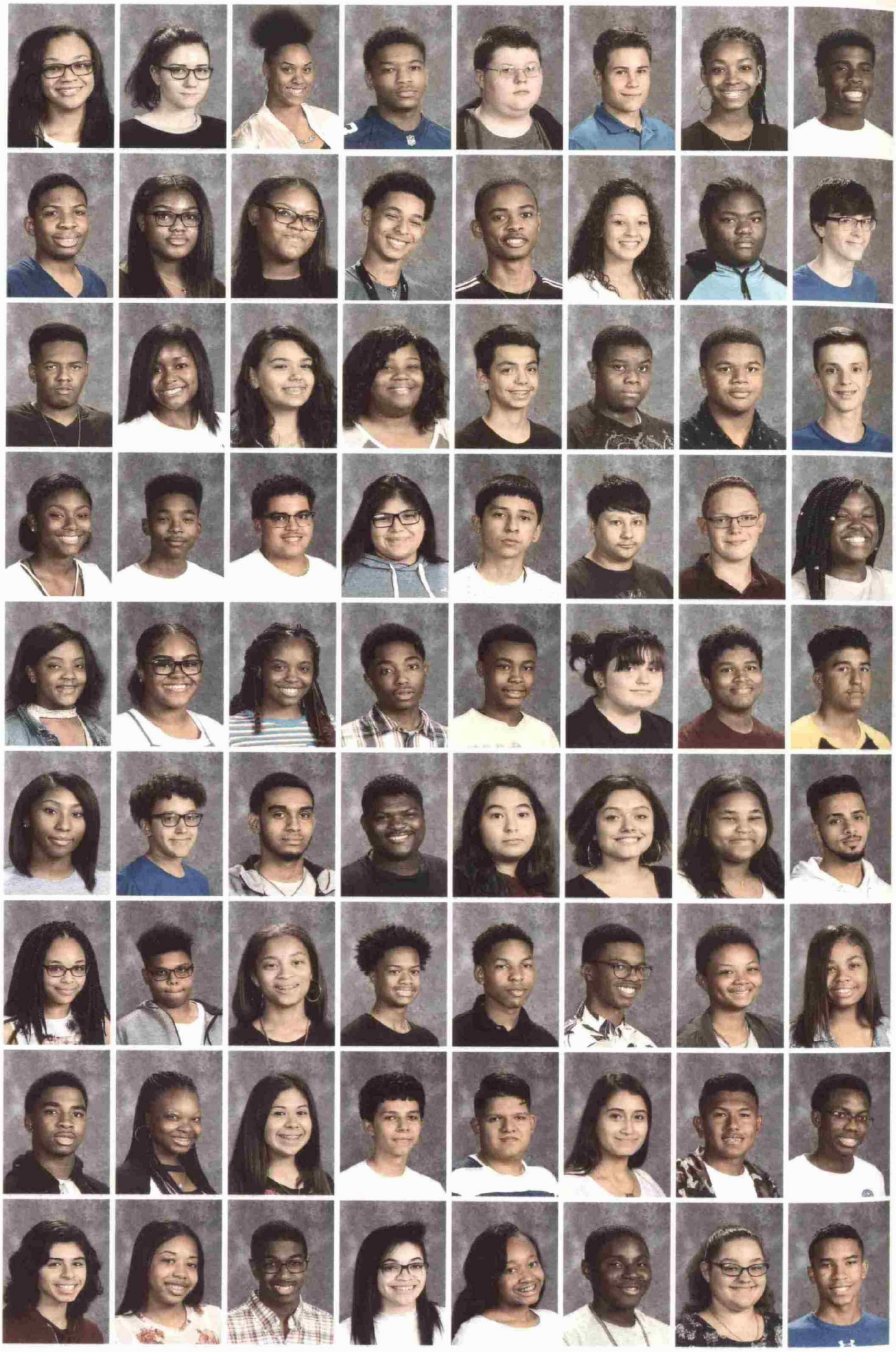
Kenneth King
Amaya Kirk
Keyonna Knighten
Mercedes Kurtis
Kobe Lackey
Trevor Lanctot
Davin Latiker
Sara Laurain

Montral Lee
Chanelle LeGrand
Rajani Lemon
Mikayla Lemons
Amare'e Lenoir
Ashanti Lenoir
Rylan Lewandowski
Jacqueline Lewis

Martes Lewis
Janee' Lockwood
Jasmine Looney
Joshua Lopez
Sharita Love
Dionna Lowe
Jacob Loyd
Zaria Lucious

Brianna Luttinen
Patience Lyles
Jaylin Maffett
Juwan Maffett
Kennedy Mahone
Matthew Makarowski
Gabrielle Malave
Jacob Maldonado

Class of 2020



Montea Mallett
Mary Manis
Diamond Manning
Zachary Martin
Gabriel Martinez
Mason Martisauskas
Kayla Mason
Jaysen Massie

Michael Mathews
Ariyanna Matthews
Erinae Mayo
Gabriel Mayo
Itez Mayo
Marissa Mays
Jennifer Mbachu
Eric McCallister

Jesse McCoy
Kyla McCoy
Darrieonna McDaniels
Janae McFerrin
Justin McGee
Travien McGee
Lawrence McIntosh
Ryan McLaughlin

Jaliyah McMahon
Jasean McMillon
Jacob Melendez
Evelyn Mena
Jeremiah Mendez
Nathan Mendoza
Lex Mercer
Royale Miller

Raelynn Mitchell
Jada Moffett
Destiny Montgomery
James Montgomery
Jaron Moore
Kira Morando
Isaiah Morgan
Maurice Morgan

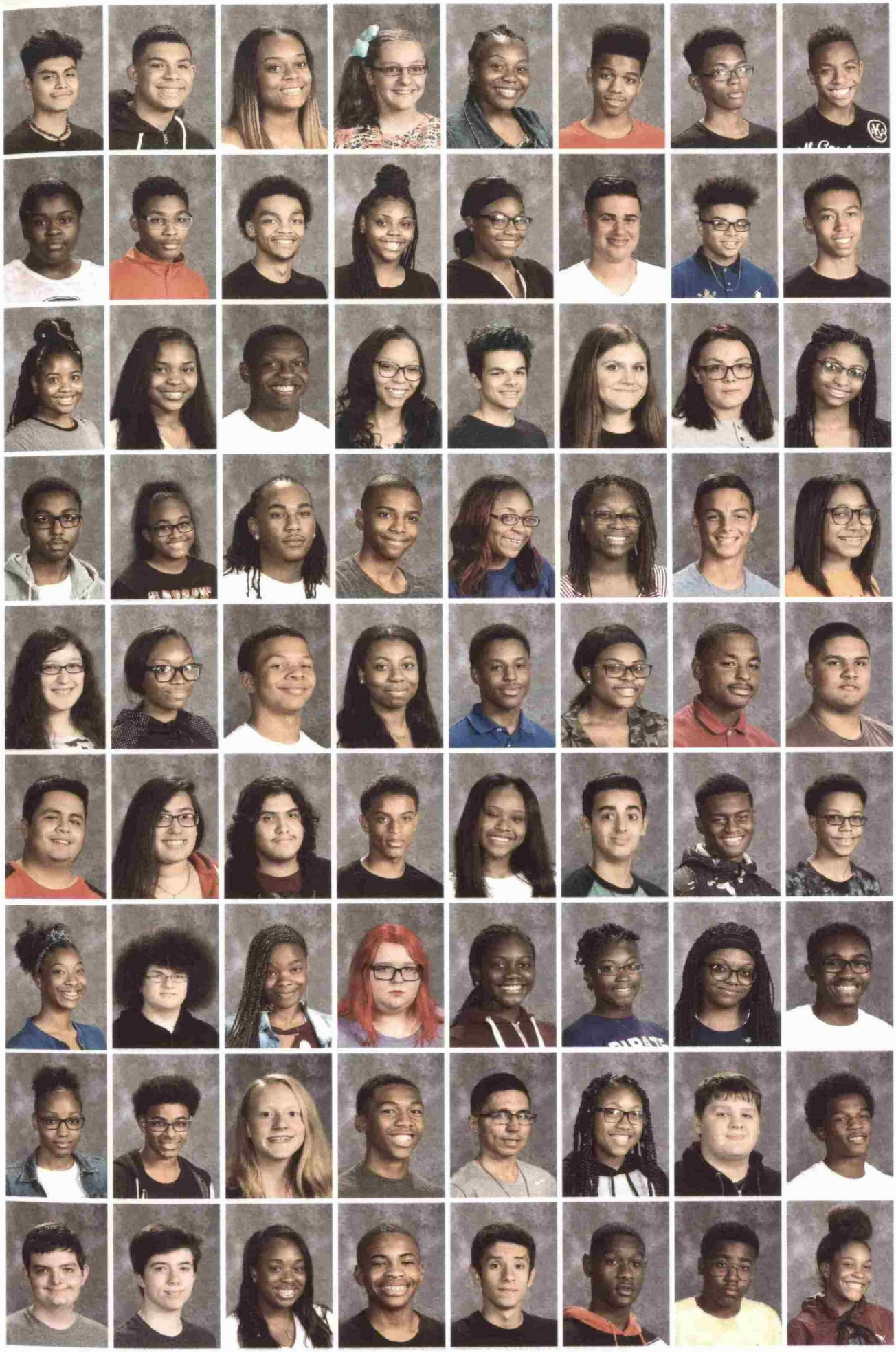
Cheyenne Moton
Eugene Mryszuk
Charles Muhammad
Amir Muhammed
Itzel Munoz
Joslyn Munoz
Alexandria Murphy
Basel Musleh

LaNiya Nabors Williams
Dexter Nalls
Joy Negron
James Nelson
Rickey Nelson
Jaeden Newman
Shaiana Norwood
Tashionte Nunn

Darion Nylon
Dorothy Oduwaye
Natalie Ordonez
Angel Orozco
Enrique Ortiz
Maria Osoria
Victor Pagoada Hernandez
Korey Parker

Adrian Parra
Shakyrah Parson
Maurice Patrick
Tyler Patterson
Deja Payne
Travis Payne
Maja Pejovski
Armon Peloza

Class of 2020



Gustavo Pena
Jorge Perez
Courtney Perkins
Caitlin Perosky
Aaliyah Perry
Anthony Pettigrew
Ahmari Petty
Nigel Phillips

Daziele Pierson
Irvin Pirtle
Keith Pirtle
Aniaya Plainer
Asia Porter
Christopher Poulos
Isaak Powell
Edward Prentice

Ashanti Price
Kihya Price
Nicholas Price
Samaria Price
Kameron Priest
Kaitlin Raddatz
Haylee Rangel
Paige Raspberry

Malik Reese
Reagan Reynolds
Tyrail Rias
Jakob Rice
Aiyauna Riley
Ariel Riley
Anthony Rivera
Jasmyne Rivera

Victoria Rivera
Aaliyah Roberts
Aryah Robertson
Amina Robinson
Aquivian Robinson
Dakota Robinson
Jahkove Robinson
Angelo Rodriguez

Carlos Rodriguez
Maria Rodriguez
Michael Rodriguez
Peter Rodriguez
Tea Roland
Sebastian Rosas
Darrius Ross
Nicholas Ross

Chyna Royster
Nicholas Rozwalka
Nya Russell
Rebecca Saluska
Aminah Samba
Leah Sams
Diamond Sanders
Jalil Sanders

Rachel Sandifer
Elijah Sandridge
Brisa Sanford
Jordan Santana
Angel Santos
Chanice Sawyers
Ryan Scher
Darius Schultz

Matthew Schwartz
Jack Scolaro
Janelle Scott
Osiris Selby
Kristopher Serrato
Jameel Shabazz
Camren Shaffer
Aaliyah Sharks

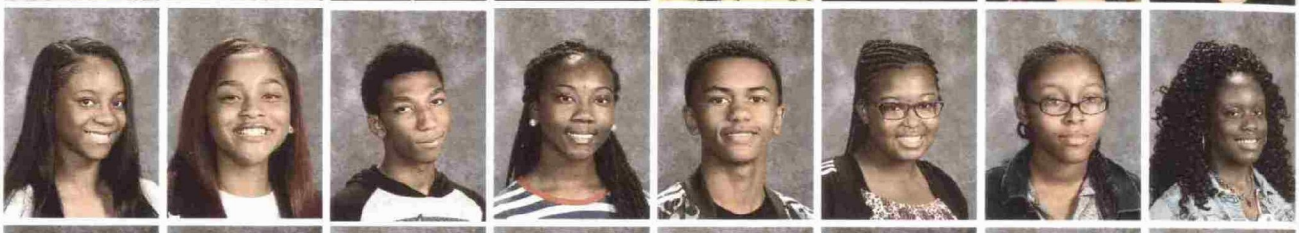
Class of 2020

Uthon Shaw-Mitchell
Xzavier Shell
Malachi Shields-Hutchin
Jamesha Simmons
Jerimiah Simon
Angel Simpson
Crystal Sims
Skye Skimehorn

Jillian Skokal
Abigail Smith
Aeryana Smith
Christina Smith
Daryll Smith
Heavenly Smith
Phillip Smith
Renazea Smith

Jordan Sonnier
Steven Southall
Willis Spates
Logan Spencer
Javonne Spivey
Kobi Stephens
Emily Stevens
Katelyn Ann Suan

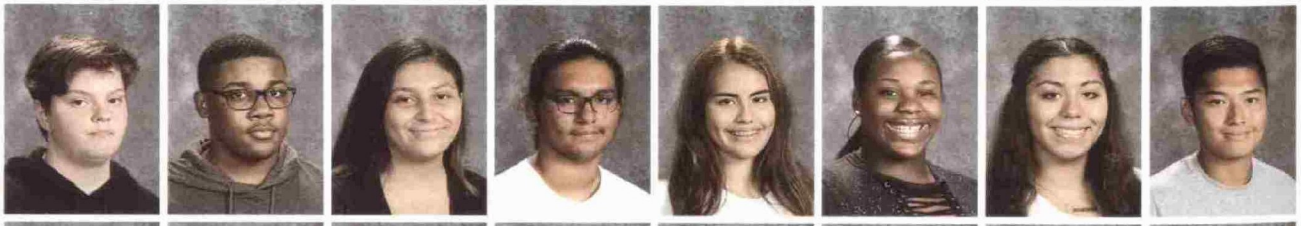
Aniyah Talbert
Leila Tape
Ayonna Taylor
Jafar Taylor
Layana Taylor
Toyanivia Taylor
Shontiana Terry
Emmanuel Thigpen



Briana Thomas
Alexander Thompson
Xavier Thompson
Malika Tillman
Lavader Tiney
Jon Tomlinson
Keyaira Torbert
Jay'da Trammell

Tianna Travis
Edward Tucker
Aniya Turentine
Aaliyah Turner
Morgan Turner
Tyler Turner
Chrystal Ulmer
Dema'ya Unger

Sophia Upchurch
Cleophus Ussery
Alexandra Varela
Alberto Velasco
Jacqueline Velasco
Caitlynne Vickerstaff
Itzel Viramontes-Renteria
Austin Vo



Isaiah Vorice
Roden Wade
Cierra Walker
Destiny Walker
Ja'Leah Walker
Jerry Walker
Sayla Walker
Khris Walton

Sierra Ward
Brandon Ware
Doran Ware
Daja Warren
Kennede Washington
Dennis Watson
Mariah Watson
Rayne Watson-Devine

Class of 2020

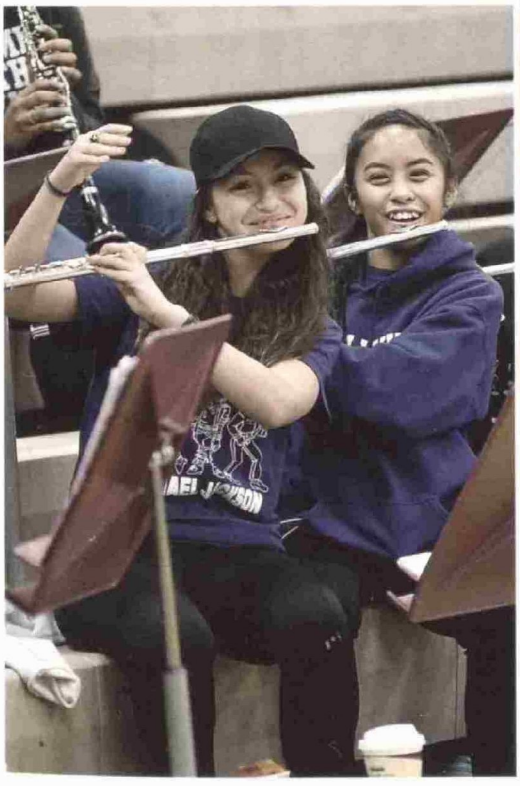
Dajanay Weaver
Kevin Westbrook
Dana Wheatley
Kyree Whisenton
Pharris Whitcomb
Destiny White
Jeremy White
Aahric Whitehead

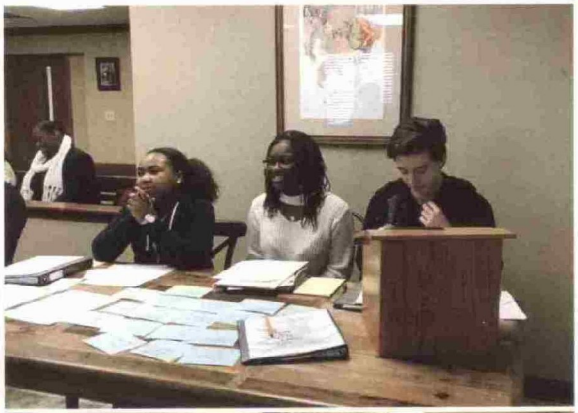
Nikhil Wiggins
Diamond Wiley
Angelina Wilkins
Ajani Williams
Alan'ya Williams
Angelique Williams
Deshaen Williams
Desirae Williams

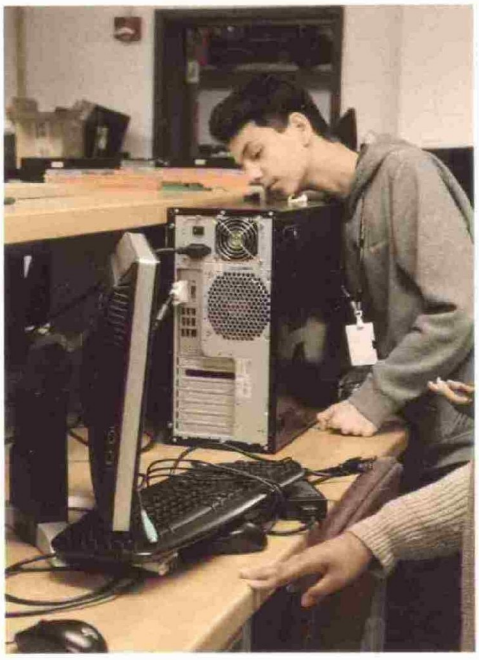
Devonte Williams
Eric Williams
Jeremiah Williams
Jevonte Williams
Jewel Williams
Malachi Williams
Michellea Williams
Myla Williams

Tylee Williams
Anthony Williamson
Jesse Williamson
Isaiah Wilson
James Wilson
Shania Wilson
Angelo Winfield
Desire' Witherspoon

Diamond Wofford
Nathan Woods
AAliyah Wright
Margaret Wujek
Donmeique Yates
Lauren Young
Torey Young



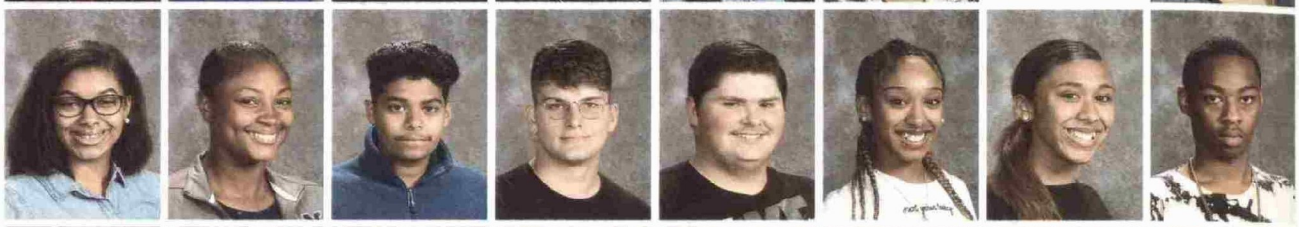




Class of 2019

Jakailyn Aaron
Ali Abdullah Jr.
Jordan Abeyta
Nathan Acosta
Alysa Adams
Oluwaseyi Akinwumi
Dakari Alford
Josiah Alford

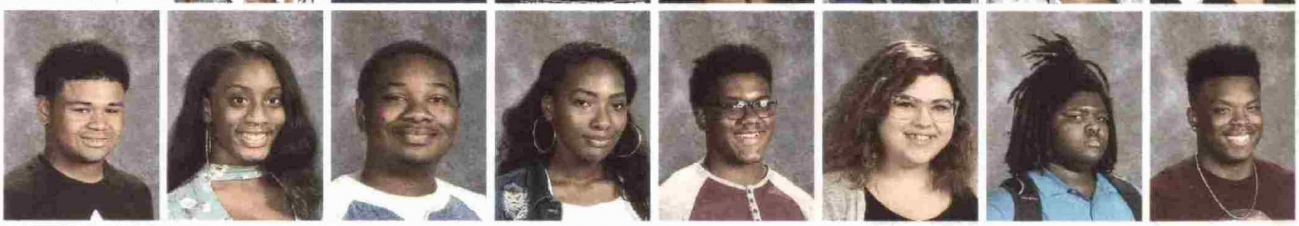
Majed Ali
Vincente Altieri
Nicolas Ambrose
Sebastian Anda
Diavian Anderson
India Anderson
Isaiah Annan
Dezirey Arceo



Madisyn Armstrong
Myjae Armstrong
Bilal Asghar
Anthony Atria
Michael Austin
Amya Aviles
Arianna Aviles
William Ayers

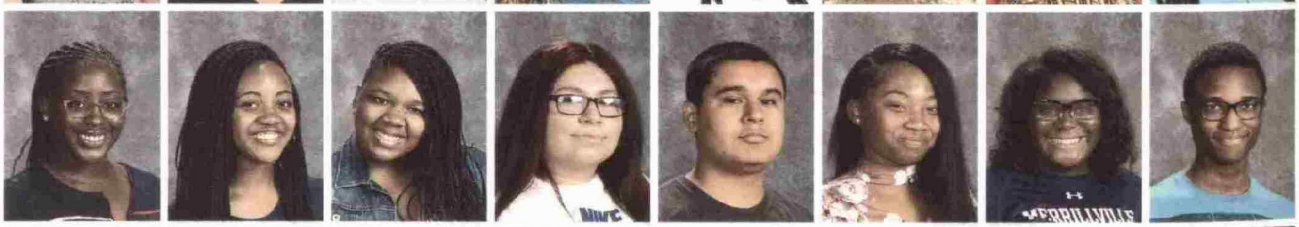
Travis Babbitt
Drew Bailey
Khari Baker
Shaniya Baker
Jericho Balderas
Rishard Balkcom
Tyson Ballard
Darryon Bandy

Da'Vante Banks
Justus Banks
Jennifer Baray
Jose Barboza Garcia
Sarah Barnes
Cortez Battle
Mackenzee Baxter
Chyelle Baylor

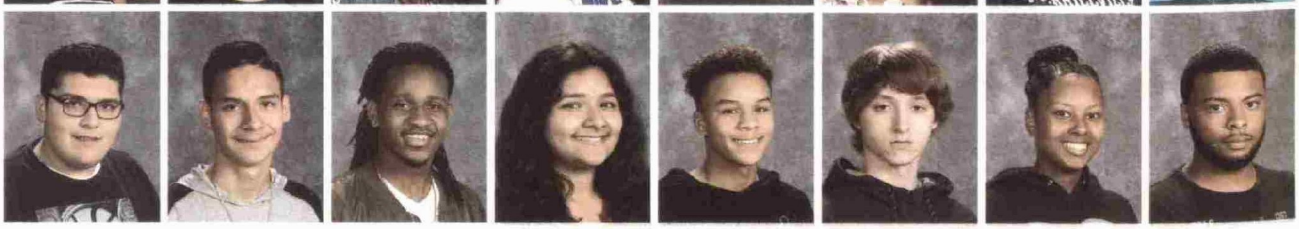


Joshua Benton
Makayla Berry
Gordon Biffle
Sabrina Blacks
Miller Blackwell IV
Haley Bowlin
Shakur Brewer
Christian Brock

Marissa Broom
Diamond Brown
Ryan Brown
Taylor Bryant
Kaila Buggs
Melanie Bunkley
Brookelyn Burks
Ajanae Burley

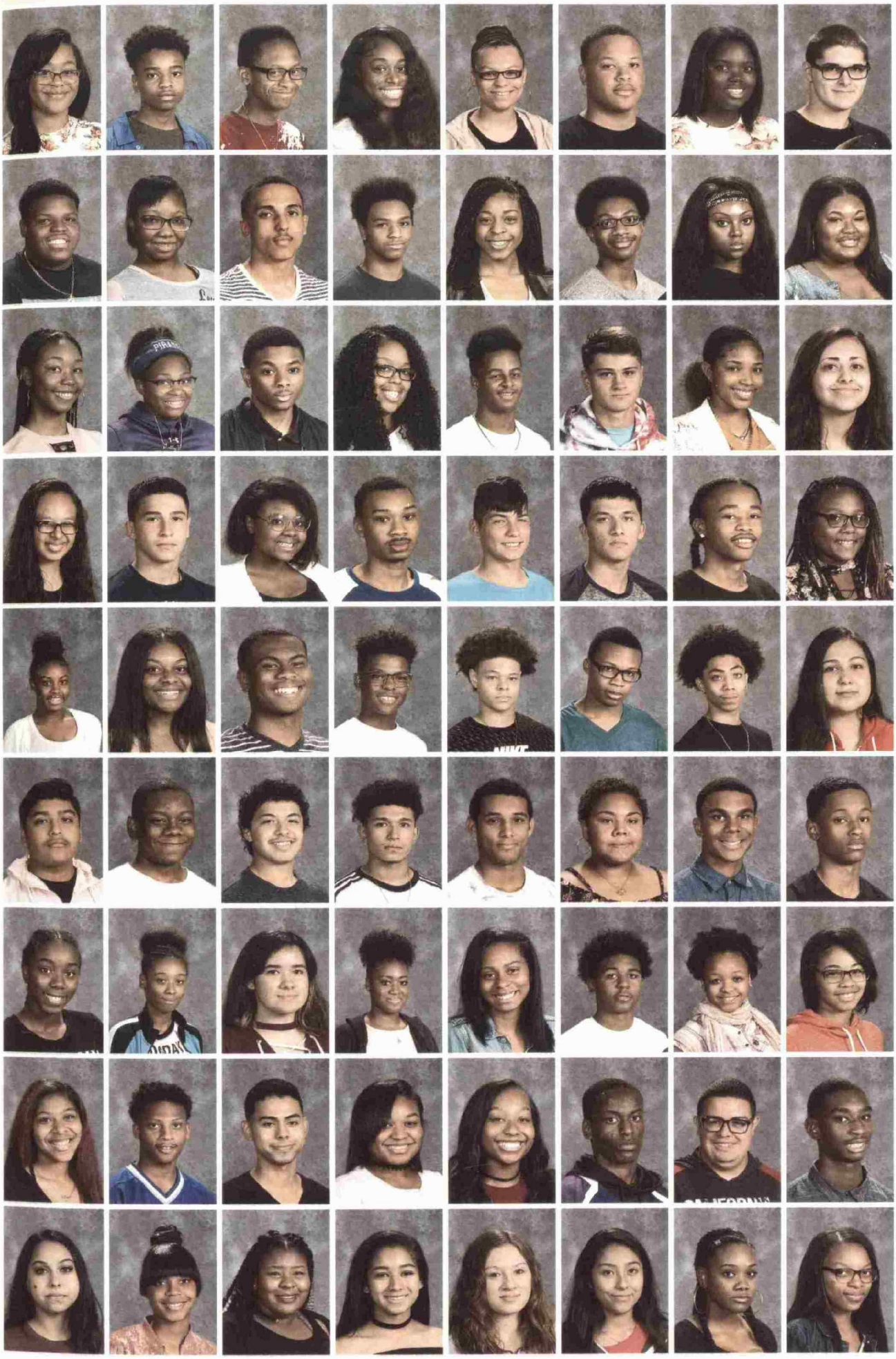


Amaya Butler
Imani Butts
Dahjanee Bynum
Angelica Cabello
Elijah Camargo
Da'Quinae Campbell
Tavia Campbell
Jordan Camper



Joe Campos
Camron Carcelli
Trayvon Cargo
Vanessa Carrillo-Ramos
Asa Saunee' Cartagena
Jeremy Castei
Annie Castleberry
Mikey Chambers

Class of 2019



Najalynn Chandler
Qwamaine Chandler
Cameron Chenault
Michonn Cherry
Angelina Clark
Davon Clark
Nialah Clay
Alvino Clifford

Maleek Cole
De'Jae Coleman
Jonathan Collins
Keenan Collins
Caliyah Cooper
Elisha Cooper
Aniyah Cox
Rosharia Crawford

Jasmine Crayton
Jasmin Creal
Richard Crook
Jamala Crosby
Jontrell Crowder
Michael Croy
Arri'Qua Crump
Chyna Cruz

Leilani Cruz
Martin Cruz
SaSha Dailey
Andrew Dalton
Damian Davila
Raymond Davila
Daevon Davis
Isis Davis

Jai'la Davis
Madyson Davis
Miles Davis
Wesley Davis
Shareef Dawson
Jovan Day
Jeremy Dean
Stephanie Del Real

Diego DeLa Cruz
Jalin Delaney
Michael Diaz
Sebastian Diaz
Jashua Diaz Cora
Jaylah Dix
Jacob Dockins
Larell Dow

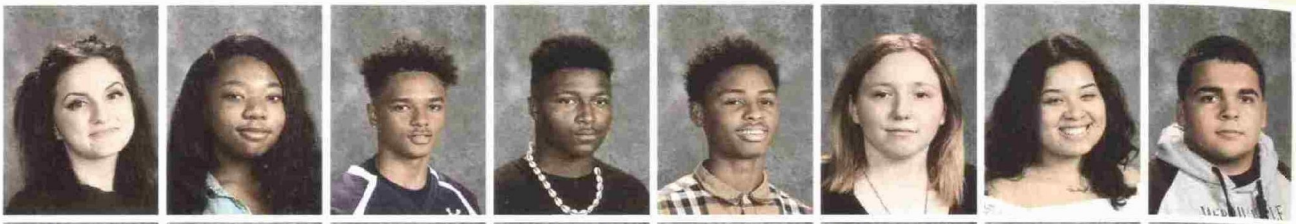
Keyonna Dowell
Kimmani Dowell
Diana Drake
Mariam Duke
Azariah Durant Horton
Daymond East
Aniya Edwards
Emmani Ellis

Alianna Encinas
Milan Ervin
David Estefania
Jada Evans
Jordan Evans
Kimonti Farr
Giovani Feliciano
Ernest Ferguson

Alexa Fernandez
Alicia Fields
Naomi Fields
Cheyenne Figueroa
Brooke Finch
Jacqueline Flores
Teanna Ford
Brianna France

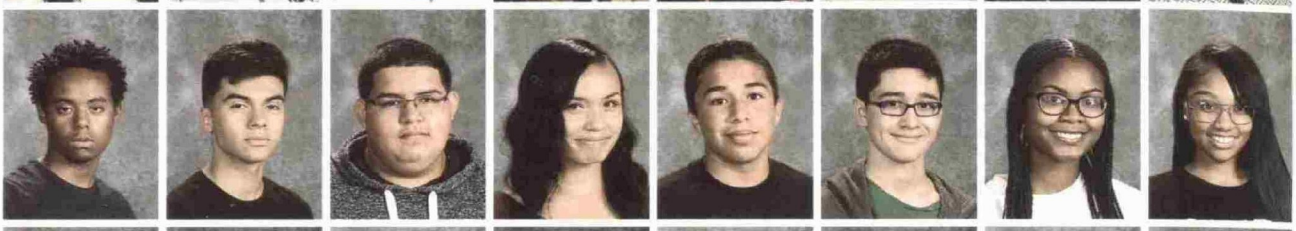
Class of 2019

Virginia Frazier
Tiarah Freeman
William Fulton
Michael Gaines
Christon Galbreath
Iris Galvan
Destiny Garcia
Izaac Garcia

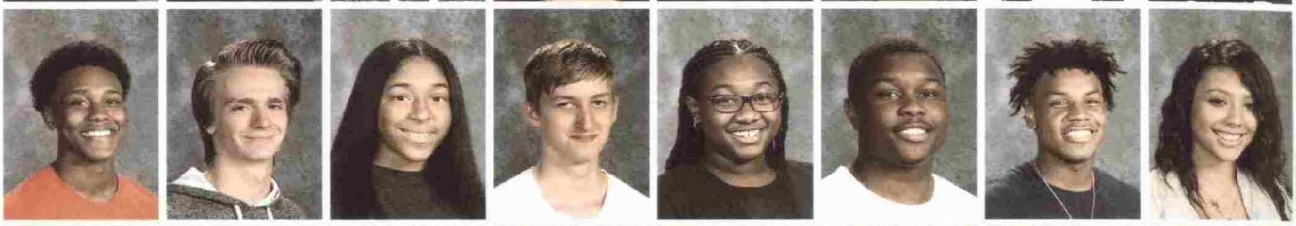


Sandra Garcia
Eelecia Garron
JaDavia Gavin
Brandi Geminder
Kha'Deidra Gilbert
Tatiana Gilbert
Earskin Gildon
Jaylen Glass

Alex Glover
Julian Gomez
Oscar Gomez
Vanessa Gomez
Tomas Gonzalez Ruiz
Caleb Goodman
TeOnna Gordon
Angenae Grady



Daijon Gray
Benjamin Green
Da'Nijah Green
Justin Green
Brittney Greer
Jailon Griffin
Marc Anthony Guerrero
Melissa Gutierrez



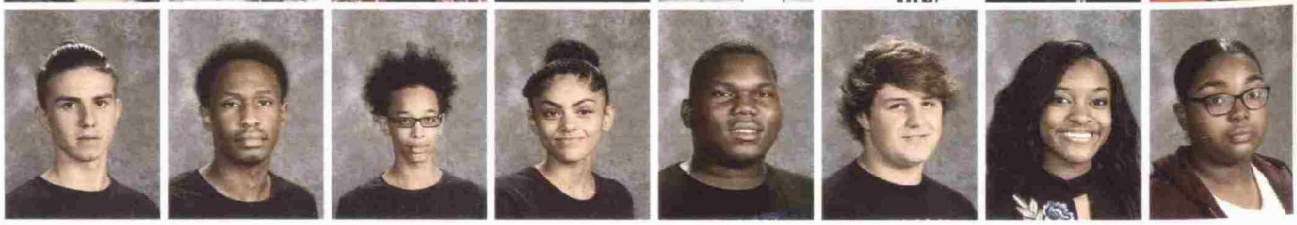
Clarke Halliburton
Jade Hamilton
Makayla Hampton
Miracole Hare
Jordan Harmon
Jaleel Harris
Jocelyn Harris
Kimbreyona Harris

Sierra Harris
Domineke Haymon
Jyllean Haymon
Ariel Hazelett
Adrian Hernandez
Daniel Hernandez
Marco Hernandez
Sofia Hernandez

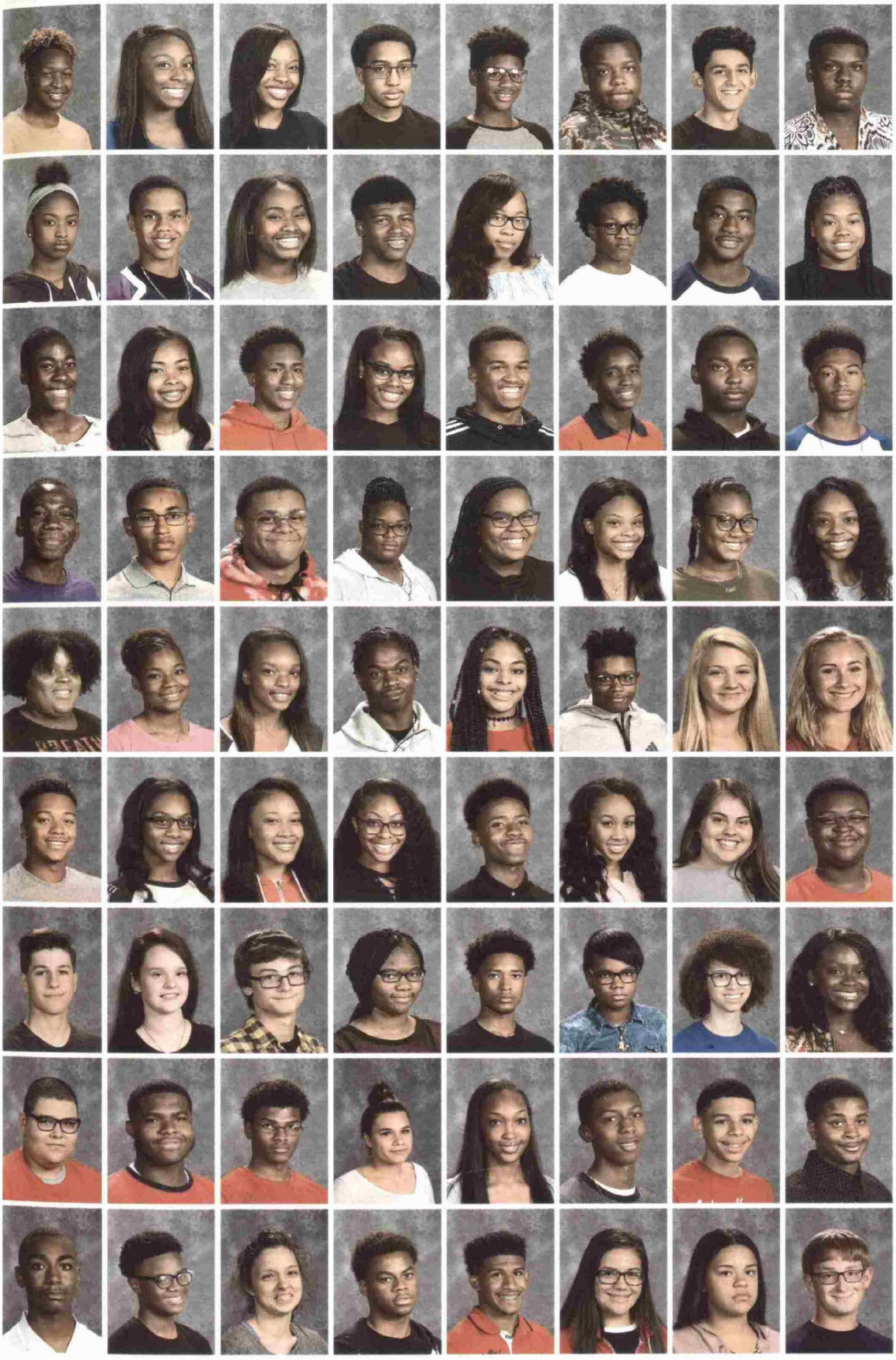
Raina Hertl
Antwand Hickerson
Imani Hicks
Anjel Highbaugh
Charlese' Hill
Peter Hill
Trinity Hobbs
Akili Hobson

Jae'da Hobson
Karynton Holliday
Jordan Holmes
Sidney Holmes
Deshaun Hoover
Isaiah Hopkins
Keith Hopkins
Shayla Houston

William Houston
Tyvion Howard
Devin Howell
Aleesha Hurt
Jimaris Hutch
Kyrylo Iesypenko
SaNiah Isabell
Kyndel Ivie



Class of 2019



Breaz Jackson
Diaviyon Jackson
Frances Jackson
Jordan Jackson
Justin Jackson
Reggie Jackson
Said Jaime
Lloyd James

MaKala James
Shedrick James
A'Mya Jamison
Eric January
Arianna Jarrett
Caleb Jarrett
Iwaun Jefferson
Amari Johnson

Anthony Johnson
Daria Johnson
DaVeyon Johnson
Tacoya Johnson
Yashar Johnson
Cameron Jones
Ceon Jones
Deon Jones

Derrick Jones
Isaiah Jones
Jalen Jones
Keith Jones
Moriah Jones
Nadia Jones
Nijaia Jones
Nora Jones

Shamiya Jones
Sirmatha Jones
Tykia Jones
Darius Jordan
Durriana Jordan
Keiaueri Joseph
Alexandra Karbowski-Thompson
Hailey Karpen

Andrew Keehn
Ron'nekia Kelly
Jermani' Keys
Jordan Kincade
Antoine King
Kaysea King
Madison King
Xavier King

Joshua Kirksey
Sabrina Krueger
Cameron La Belle
Arielle Lackey
Keyshawn Lackey
Kennisha Laing
Jaden LaRue
Jadyn Lawson

Daniel Ledesma
LeDarryl Lee
TYondae Lee
Angel LeGrand
Alexia Lewis
Daniel Lewis
Isaiah Lewis
Jaden Lewis

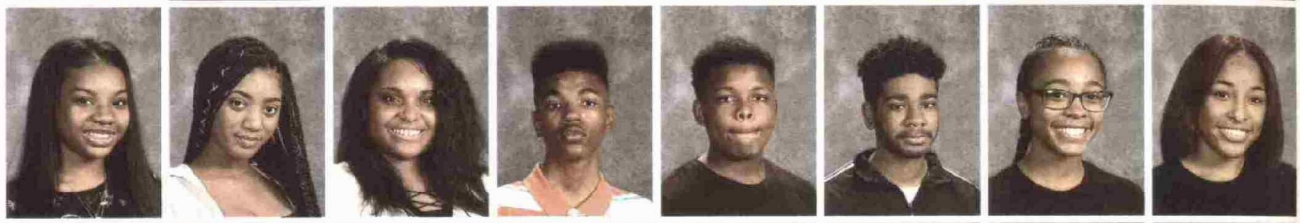
Julian Lewis
Jevon Lindsey
Gabrelle Lobins
Alejandro Lopez
Paul Lopez
Sabrina Lopez
Te Ajanae Lord
Cameron Louthan

Class of 2019

Donte Lowe
Jada Lowe
Brandon Lucero
Tiana Lyles
Keyana Mabins
Moriah Madkins
Amari Madry
Icess MaGee

Juan Maldonado
Nina Maldonado
Jessie Marquez
Donovan Marteen
Hailee Martin
Maurice Martin
Axel Martinez
Majel Martinez

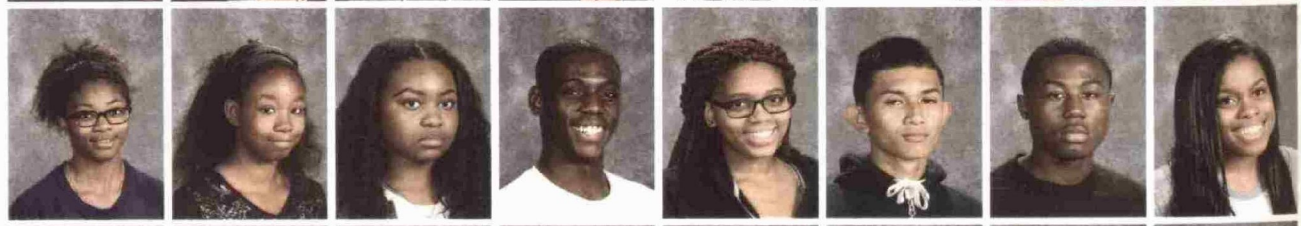
Xavier Martinez-Scott
Jadon Mason
Isaiah Maynard
Aniya McClendon
Madison McClendon-Moore
De'Vonte McCollum
Kenosha McCullough
Jacob McDonald



Dia'monique McDuffie
Tamera McEwen
Shalina McFarland
Tyrese McGee
Malcolm McGhee
Jordan McGoffney
Payton McHenry
Aliyah McLain

Ronald McMullan
Regina Meeker
Cristal Mena
Lakadia Merritte
Trayten Mikesell
Charles Milam
Rejon Miller
Jamal Milton

Michael Mitchell
Shamari Mitchell
Nikola Mitich
Lauren Moody
Amina Moore
Kaliyah Moore
Bernard Morgan
Armand Morris

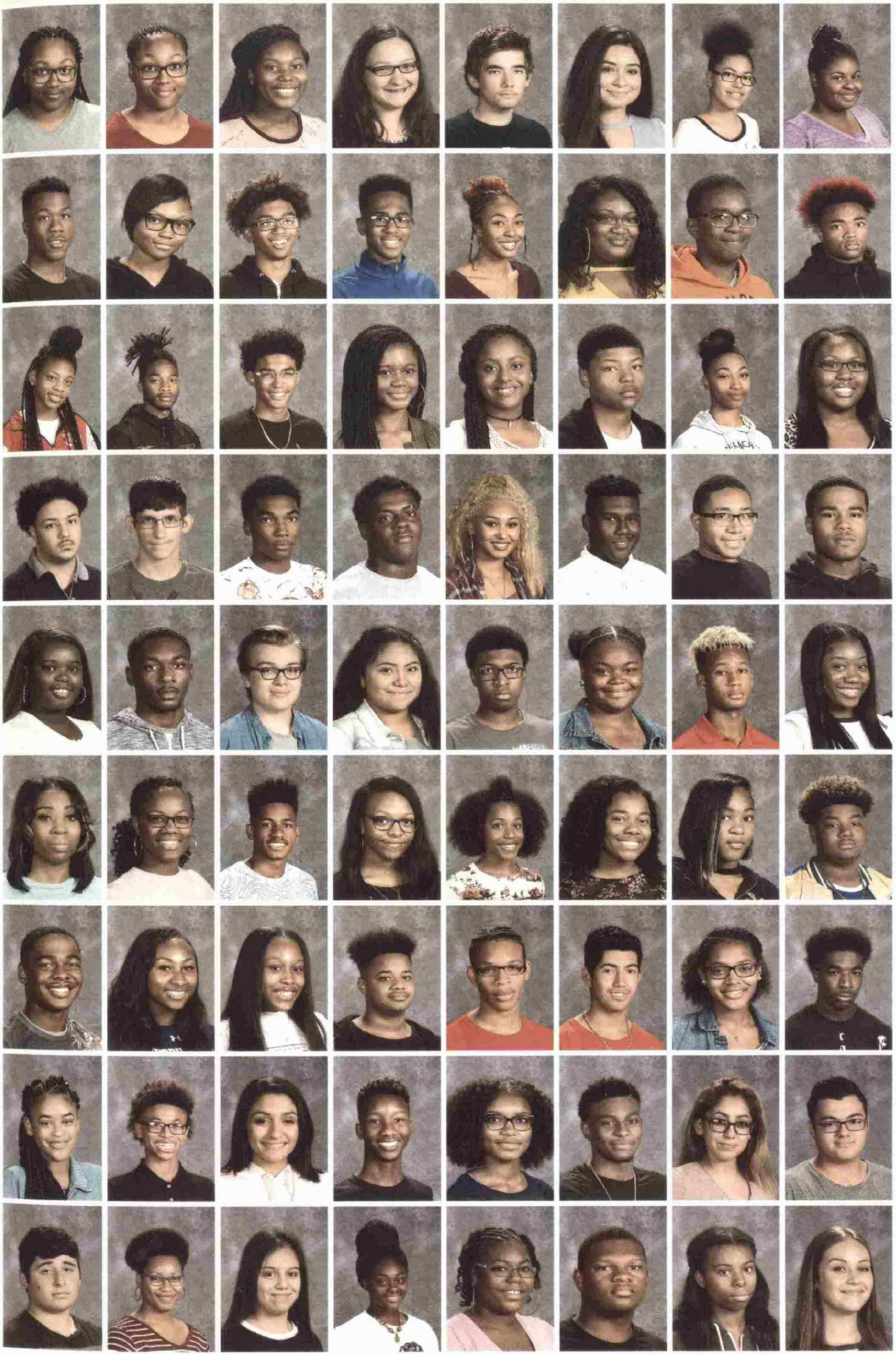


Latoria Moss
Champaign Mueller
Maryam Muhammad
Jordan Munchenburg
Aaliyah Murray
Masayoshi Nangin
Aubrey Neal
Tasha Neal

Kylah Nicholson
Janae Noble
Symone Norman
Mikayla Nothem
Gabriel Ochoa
Emmanuel Ogugua
Alyssia Ornelas
Anthony Outlar

Antonisha Paine
Briana Palmer
Alexus Palomo
Lucero Paniagua Cedillo
Kayla Parkham
Ayush Patel
Deep Patel
Sumit Patel

Class of 2019



Samaria Patrick
Samora Patrick
Ma'Kaela Patterson
Klimentina Pejovski
Colin Pell
Scarlett Peralta
Jailene Perez
Ashyah Perry

Lorenzo Perry
Kaylin Peterson
Fajayan Peterson-Mosley
Trendarious Peterson-Mosley
Kaniyah Pharms
Jasmin Phillips
Le'Brone Phillips
Dameon Pinkins

Tatiana Pippins
Brandon Platts
Devin Pope
Nya Powell
Maria Pratt
Keith Price
Teosha Protho
Amari Pryor

Noah Pryor
Joshua Raddatz
Rackesh Ragoo
Justen Ramsey
Bailey Rapavi
Jalen Ray
Isaiah Rayburn
Dejon Readus

Tyana Reaves
Malcolm Reese
Lucas Reinhart
Elizabeth Reyes
Myles Reynolds
Travonyah Reynolds
Curtis Rias
Diabolique Ridle

Ariana Riley
Tamila Riley
Javier Rivera
Kayla Roberson
Cheyenne Roberts
Serena Robertson
Alexis Robinson
Armani Robinson

Aubin Robinson
Britney Robinson
Chanel Robinson
Jarred Robinson
Jaylen Robinson
Kevin Robles Urena
Joi Roche'
Andre Rodgers

Angel Rodgers
Robert Rodgers
Serena Roldan
Arieus Ross
Kristah Royster
Lavari Ruffin
Emily Ruiz
Ivan Sahagun

Emilio Salas
Alissa Sales
Destiny Salgado
Isatou Samba
Bionca Sams
Aaron Samuels
Jada Sanders
Annalise Saul

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Makayla Scott
Nina Scott
Taylor Scott
Kristen Semmes
Carly Sheets
Crystal Shelby
Blessed Shelton
Aleni Shomo

Aaron Short
Demetrian Shorter
Luke Shufford
Alexia Smith
Alexis Smith
Christopher Smith
Geanna Smith
Jered Smith

Jeremy Smith
Joenathan Smith
Joshua Smith
Laniya Smith
Taijah Smith
Bryan Sobczak
Dylan Sotak
SanTana Southall

Jonathan Spates
Ocean Starks
Hanna Stevens
Asaiah Stevenson
Letrese Steverson
Dykeil Stingley
Nyelle Stingley
Brook Stone Byerly

Sven Strom
Labaron Strongs
Reem Sulieman
Timothy Sunny
Tyrese Surney
Jaylen Suttles
Marcellus Swain
Tyler Sweet

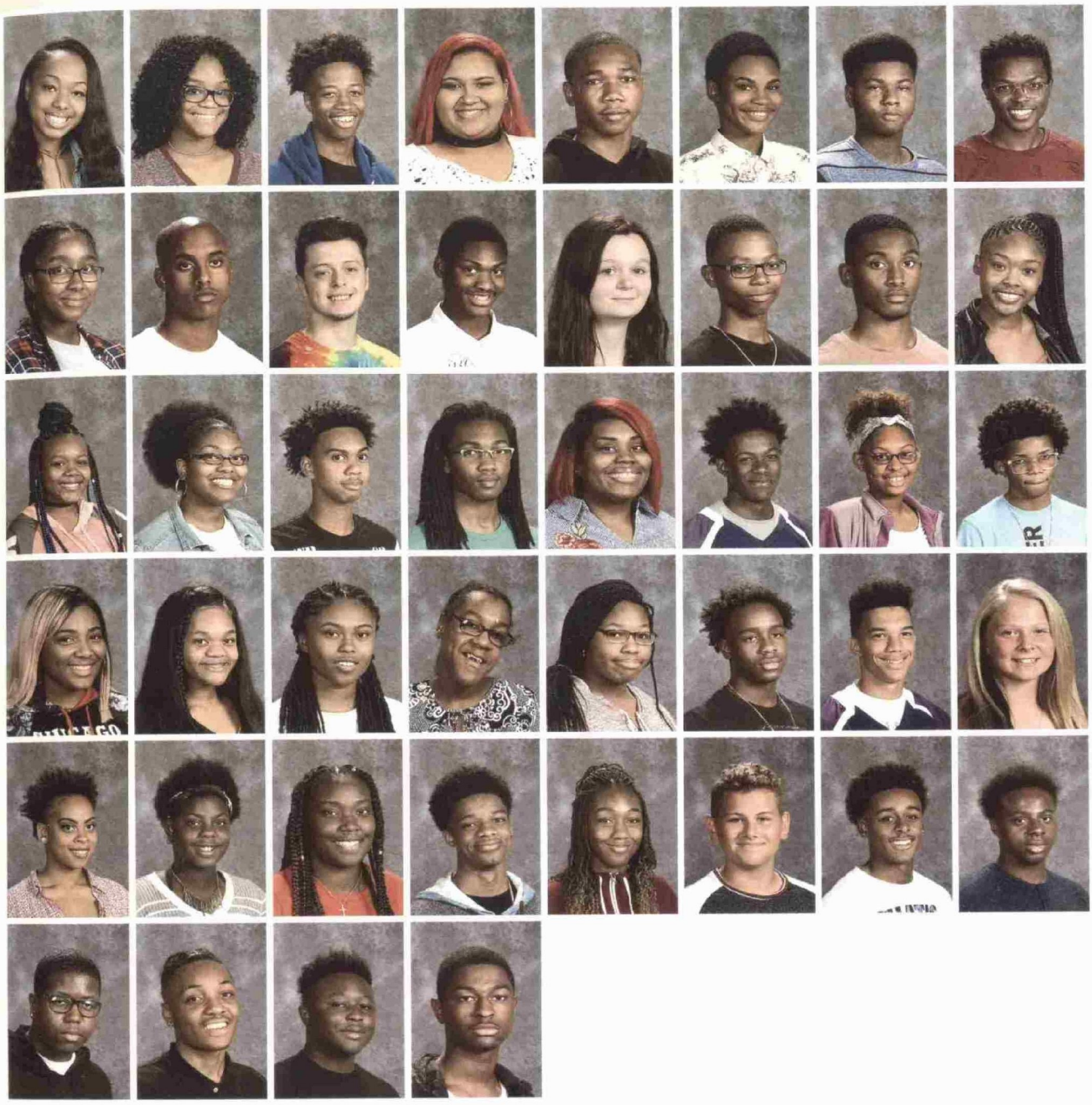
Anthony Swims
Jairus Sykes
Jazmine Sylvestal
Jesse Talley
Messiah Talley
Maria Tan
Love Tanner
Nigel Taylor

Sariah Taylor
Leanne Tennione
Daveon Thomas
Janaye Thomas
Kelli Thomas
Lauryn Thomas
Trinity Thomas
Acaiya Timmons

Deondre Todd
Gwyneth Troupe
Ashley Turner
Kendra Turner
Ronald Turner
Mont'eisha Underwood
Ryan Underwood
Ashanti Ussery

Daniella Uvalle
LaVana VanCuren
Jazmin Vargas
Jazmyn Velazquez
Justin Villanueva
Briany Wagner
Kailey Walaszek
Kiyah Walker

Class of 2019



Rockia Walker
Camille Walls
Bobby Walton
Brianna Ward
Tyresse Ware
Kira Warren
Jehmiah Washington
Robert Waterford

Erryonne Watts
Maurice Weaver
Jacob Weber
Damon Wheatley
Ellecia White
Joseph White
Marvin White
Anprea Whitfield

Shyaire Wiggins
Courtni Williams
Da'trell Williams
Derek Williams
Haily Williams
Jawanza Williams
Kia Williams
Kobe Williams

Tyanna Williams
Tiyzhane Williamson
Day Wilson
Jordynn Winborn
Jada Wingate
Mason Wolf
Dominique Wood
Paige Wood

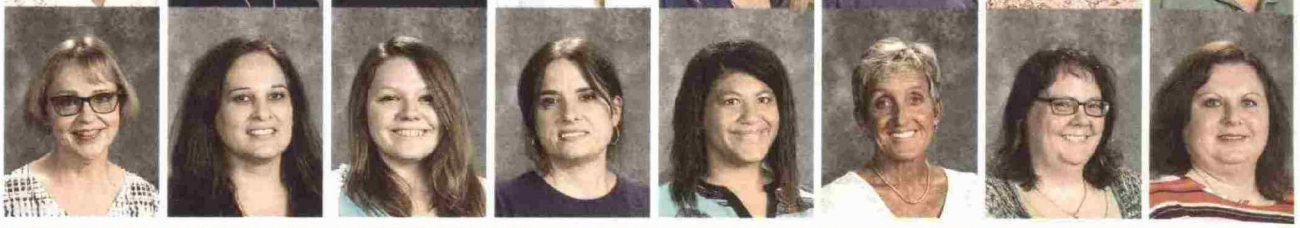
Angelay Woods
Angelique Woods
Ronisha Woods
Tramone Woods
Colbie Word
Braden Worthington
Cameron Wright
Donovan Wright

Jaden Wright
Kenzel Wroten
Arshawn Wynn
Ehren Young

Faculty & Staff

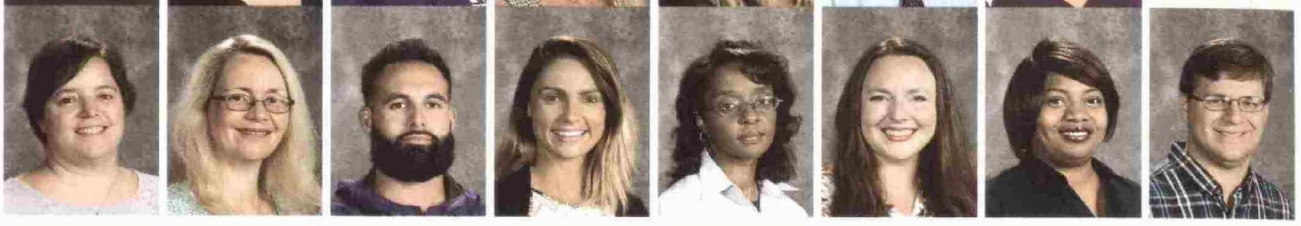
Grace Adinku
Gerald Akujobi
Robert Albers
Janet Anderson
Jennifer Anno
Dianne Appiah
Allyson Arredondo
Joseph Atria

Cheryl Austin
Sandra Babilonia
Kaylyn Banaszak
Amber Baron
Jenaffer Beasley
Amy Beckham
Michele Beckman
Carrie Bedwell



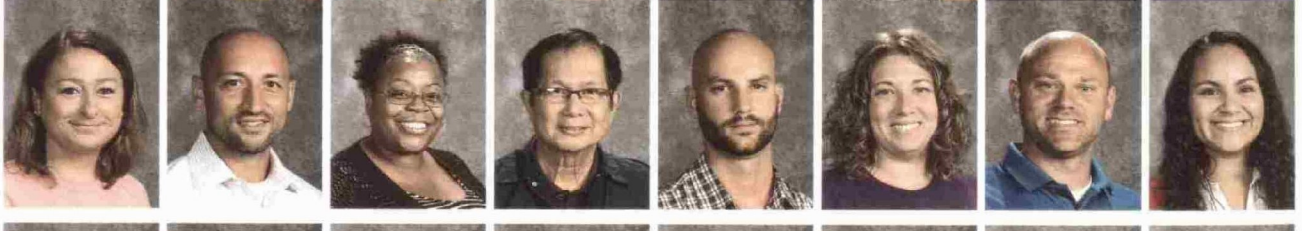
Robert Bedwell
Adeline Bemish
Brad Best
Kathryn Bihlman
Lora Bish
Wade Boise
Janelle Bowen
Connor Buxton

Melissa Byerly
Kristin Campbell
Patrick Coffey
Mary Conway
Tyra Cooper
Hannah Coronado
Damita Crittenden
Patrick Cudzilo



Anthony Curry
Dawn Czuba
Monica Dacostagomez
Carol Dahlen
Benjamin Daniel
Sarah Daniels
Mark Danielson
Melinda Davis

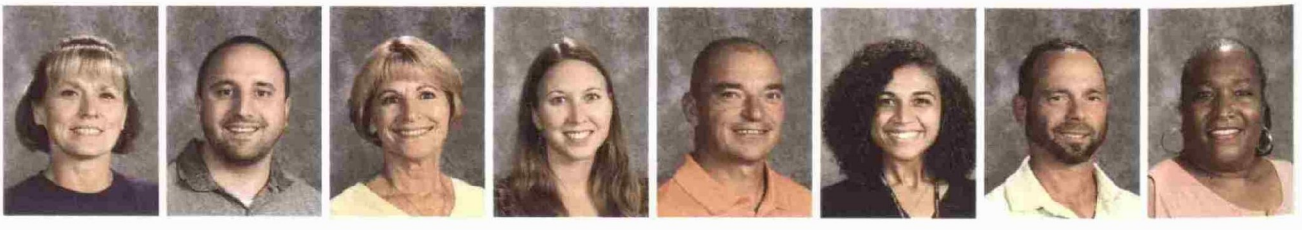
Grace Dewald
Pere Dorsuleski
Pam Dortch
Edgardo Eliscupides
Michael Engle
Meghan Erickson
Jeffrey Fairbairn
Jackeline Fernandez



Robert Fernando
Brigitte Floyd
Adam Fricke
Kevin Furman
Dragica Gajic
Bennett Gallivan
Paul Gallivan
Robert Gardner

Matthew Garner
William Garner
Zella Garron
Gregory Geimer
Amy Govert
Lela Green
Jaclyn Grigutis
Linda Hall

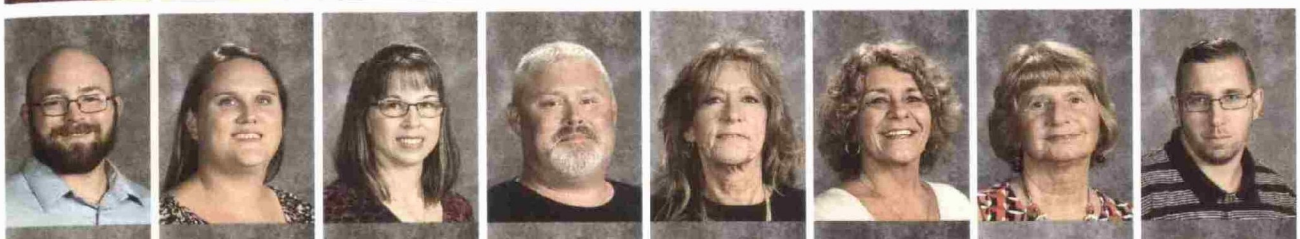
Teresa Harness
Josh Harvoth
Susan Hayes
Kira Healy
Robert Heckler
Victoria Henderson
Dave Hinkel
Joanne Hinton



Faculty & Staff

Anthony Hofer
Katelyn Holsclaw
Cari Hooper
Benjamin Horan
David Hossler
Joseph Hussey
Bryant Isabell
Elisha Israel

Timothy James
Darcie Johnston
James Johnston Jr
Betty Jordan
Mark Juszczak Jr
Robert Kaplar III
Sean Kavois
Dawn Kazmierski



Thomas Kelly
Sarah Kennedy Ketchem
Elizabeth Kenyon
Kenneth Kenyon II
Lena Kiser
Debra Klippel
Angie Knezevic
Michael Knocke

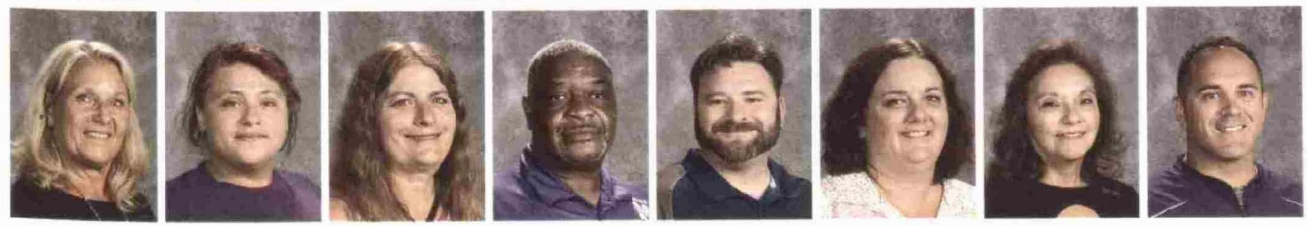
Nada Kolar
Kelly Kratz
Michael Krutz
Linda Kulina
Lauren Lapierre
Alicia Lasky
Candace Lillie
Catherine Lobody

Leticia Lomeli
Jesse Long
Aaron Longacre
Latonya Lopez
Luis Lopez
Sheryl Loving
Tricia Lukawski
Thomas Mackey

David Maldonado
Raquel Maldonado
Veronica Maldonado
Chyamiah Martin
Patricia Martinez
Rachelle Massacavollo
Deborah McBride
Michelle McGin-Vargas

Patricia McWay
Tanya Mead
Sean Meagher
Lee Meyer
Nisa Milosavljevich
Vesna Mitic'
Biljana Mizimakoska
Alan Mizimakoski

Joseph Monahan
Debra Monix
Helen Moravskij
Debbie Morgan
Yolanda Morris
Dana Moslander
Erin Mulloy-Flores
Ben Nicksic



Gail Nicolini
Angela Nieves
Bonnie Niksch
Joe Nora
Allen O'Connor
Beth O'Halek
Martha Ortiz
Brian Parker

Faculty & Staff

Natasha Parkham
Russell Parkhurst
Stacy Parkhurst
Brian Past
Anthony Patton
Darian Patton
Deanne Pierce
Marsha Pierson

Heather Pocock
Neerja Prasad
Chloe Pridgen
Rose Pulliam
Janis Qualizza
Shelley Ray
Melinda Reinhart
Chris Richardson

Nick Roberts
Pamela Roberts
Mark Robinson
Patricia Robison
Diane Rosenthal
Susan Rosenwinkel
Sharon Row
Michelle Ruane

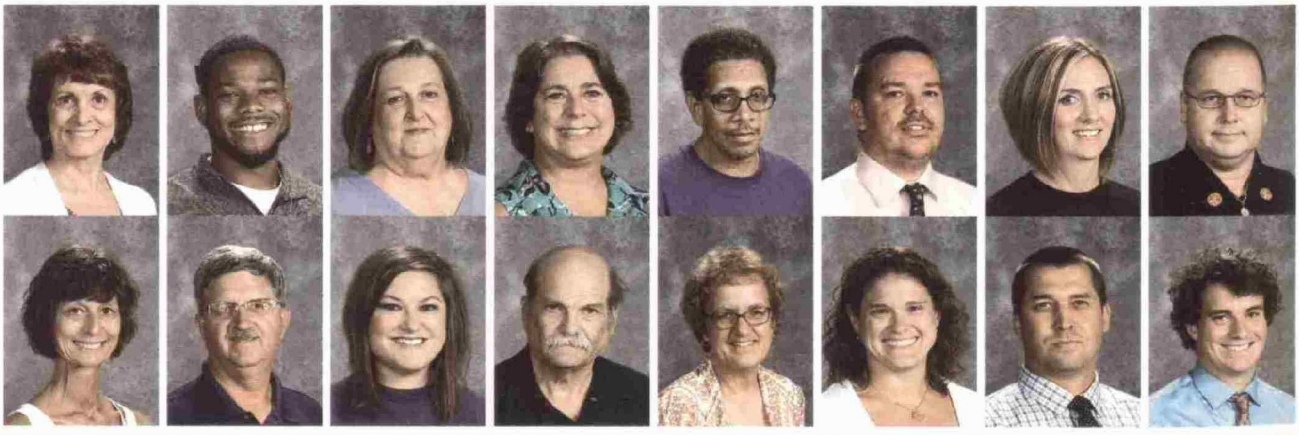
Kathy Russell
Joshua Sabinas
Teresa Sahagun
Jamerson San Antonio
Jesse Sanchez
Brenda Sanders
James Sanders
Chica Sanders

Lt. Col. Michael Sax
Sherri Scartozzi
Kurt Scheuerman
Gary Schlinger
Sandra Scholtens
Daniel Schoon
Bradley Seiss
Marica Sekuloska

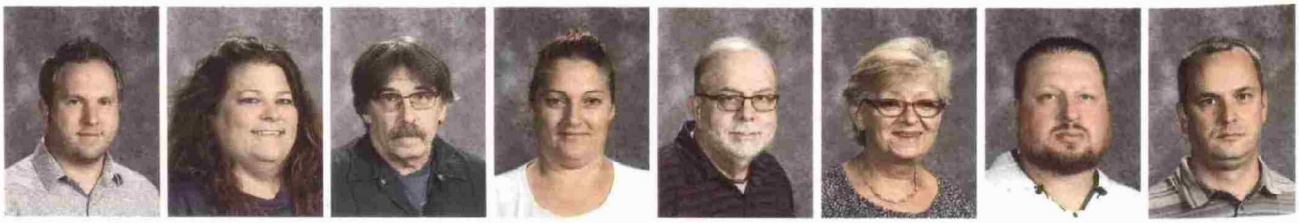
Charles Seligman
Mendo Semovski
Meredith Seydel
Wesley Short
Melissa Sickinger
Kristina Sides
Veronica Siwy
Alison Skertic

Gail Smith
Kenneth Smith
Patricia Smith
Patricia Smith
Robert Smith
Jason Sonnenberg
Rachel Sonnenberg
James Sopher

Irene Spiro
Douglas Splitgerber
Samantha St Aubin
Dean Stadt
Debra Staffeld
Sara Stallings
James Stamper
Michael Sterling



Timothy Stewart
Michelle Sulich
Tom Sweet
Rozali Taseska
David Teeter
Carolyn Towry
Paul Trembacki
Jeffrey Trivette



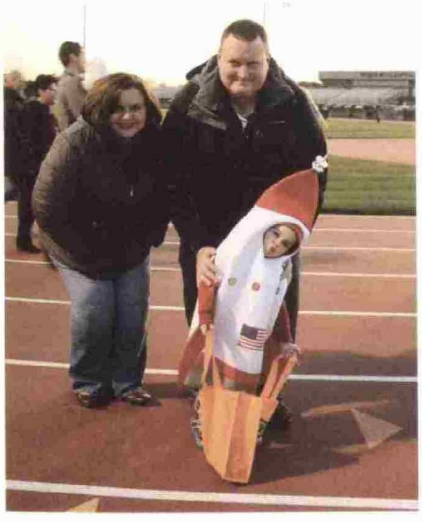
Faculty & Staff

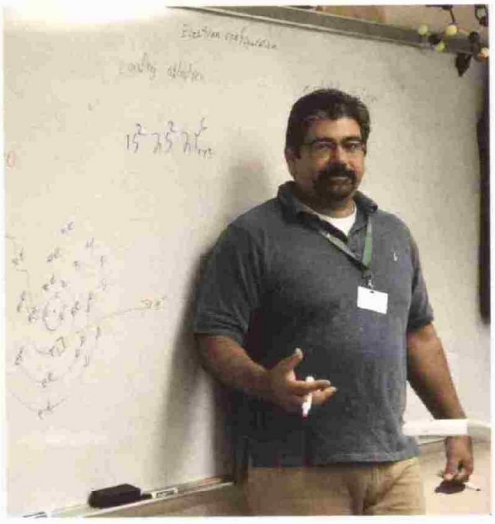
Patti Tubbs
Paul Unterfranz
Cheryl Ursery
Melissa Valsi
Beverly VanDrunen
Joy Vareka
Erica Velazquez
Lucer Vera

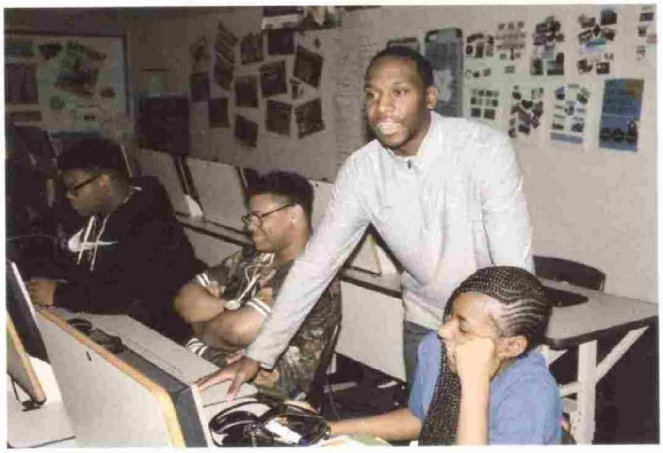
Mia Vinson
Dennis Vizena
Carol Vonbehren
Ronda Waters
Dawn Bunker Weeks
William West Sr.
Kerry Wiersbe
Melissa Williams

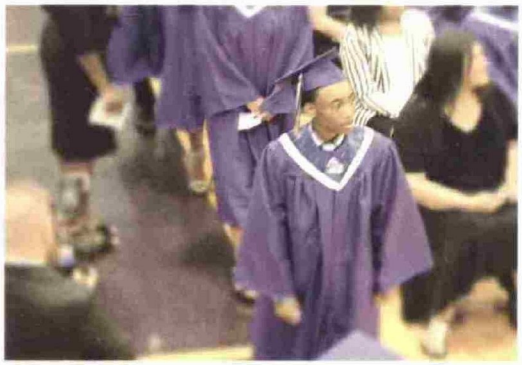
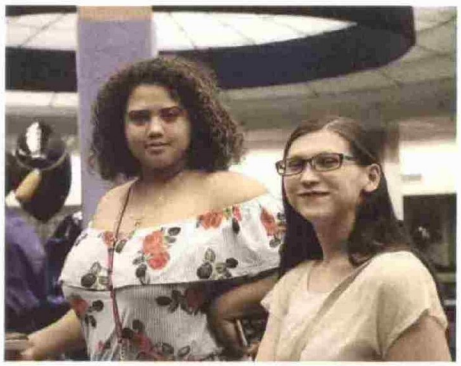
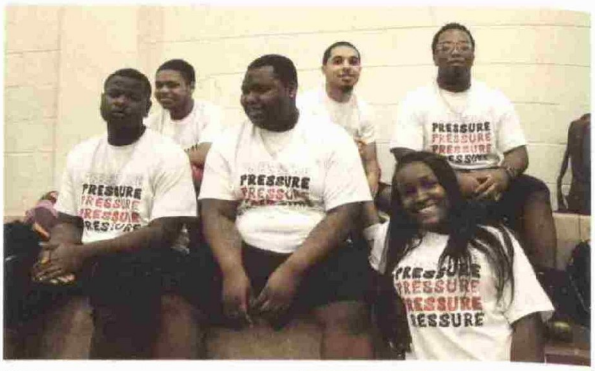
Debra Willison
Don Willison
Kareema Wilson
Michelle Wilson
Donald Wirick
Paul Wirtz
Eugene Woods
Mona Wooley-Nunnery

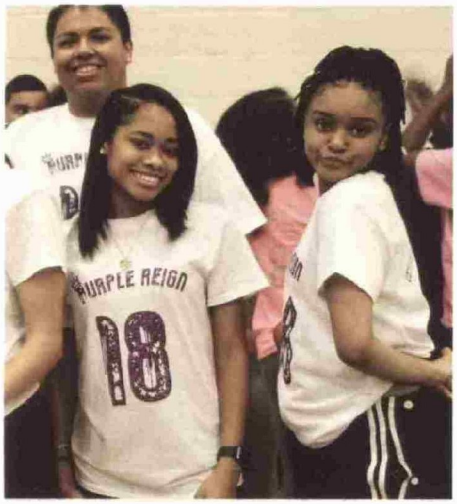
SMSgt. Daniel Wrasman
Dorothy Yetsko
Esmeralda Zamora
Brian Zdych
Joan Zerbe

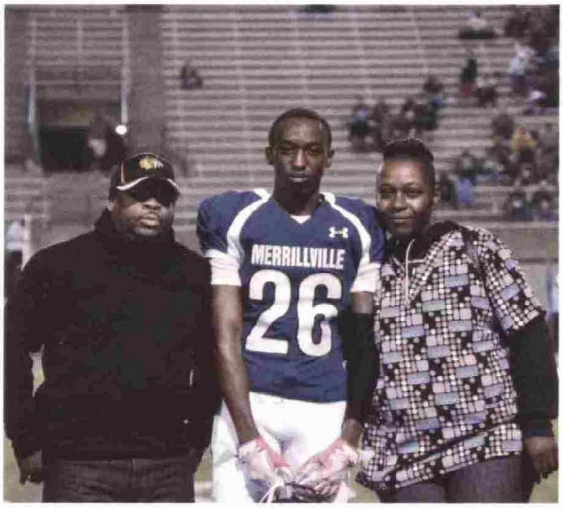


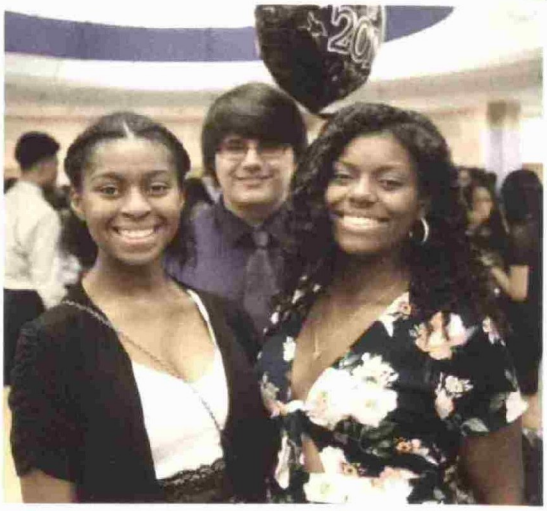


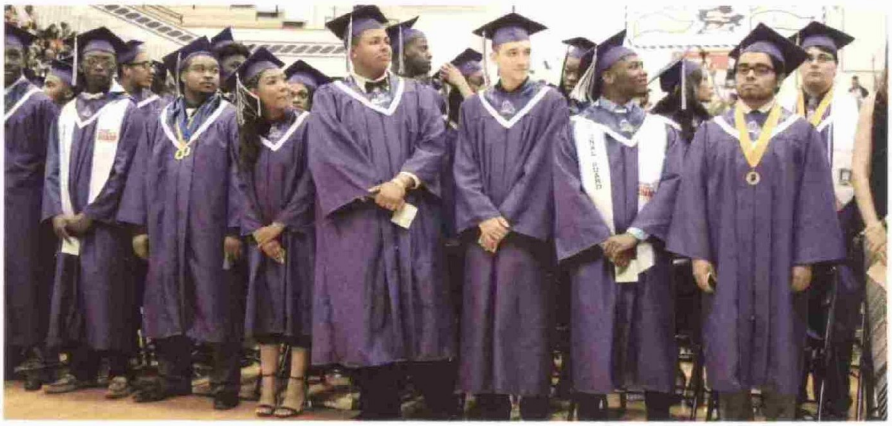


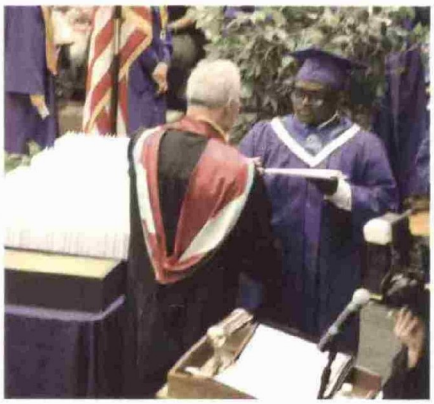








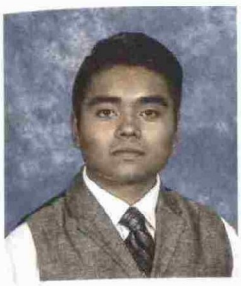




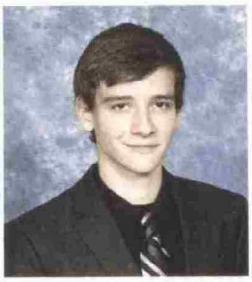


SENIORS

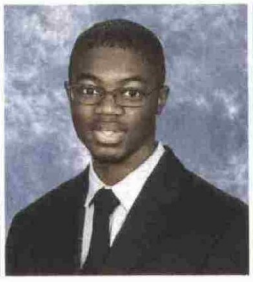
Class of 2018



Adalberto Acosta



Seth Akers

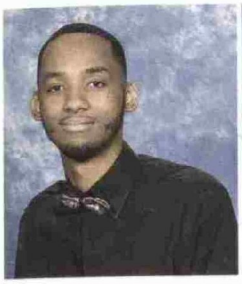


Matthew Alleyne

Jaime Alvarez

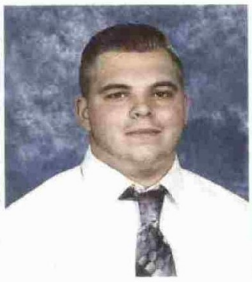
Shayna Anczer

Dionna Anderson

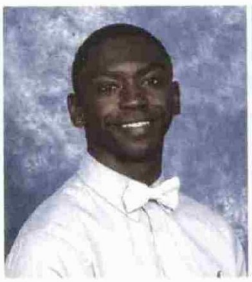


Jamal Anderson

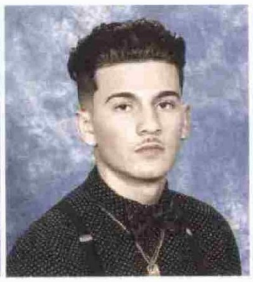
Josiah Anderson



Tyler Anderson



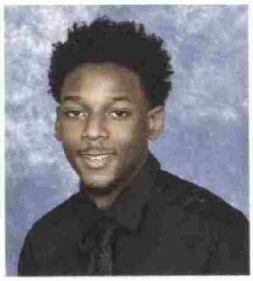
Khamari Andrews



Joseph Aponte

Ryan Atkins Frazier

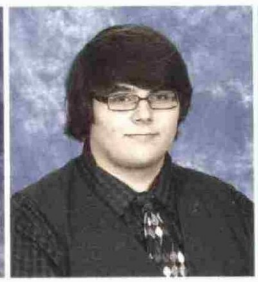
Ferdinand Emmanuel Aton



Jamari Averhart

Teaja Ayres

Taylor Ballard

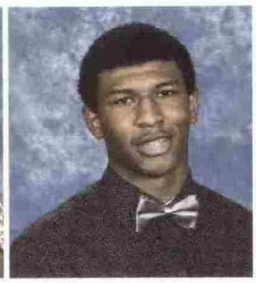


Keith Barnard

Skye Baso

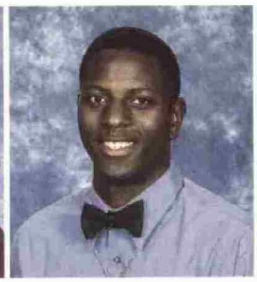
Jordyn Bates

Jasmine Bell

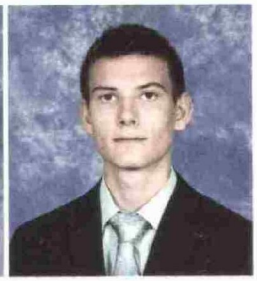


Johnny Bernard

Robyn Berry

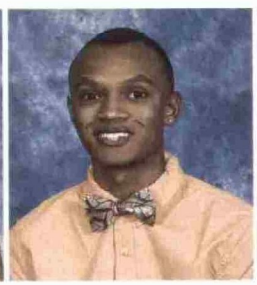


Dominic Bethel

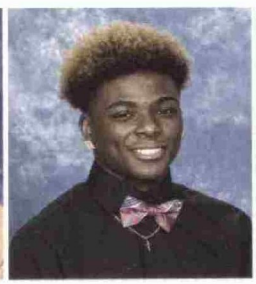


Justin Bhe

Cara Blanford

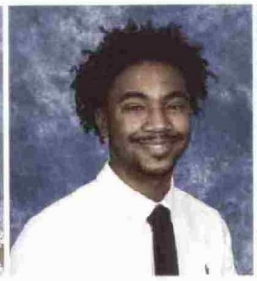


Airron Blissett

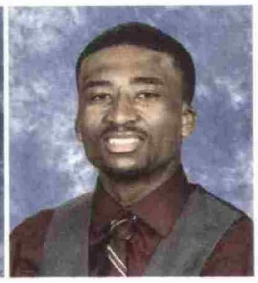


Jerek Boclair Jr

Sasha Boone



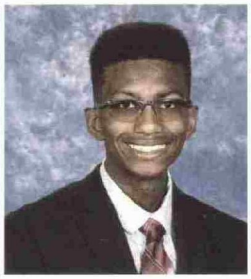
Eugene Boyd Jr



Christian Bracey

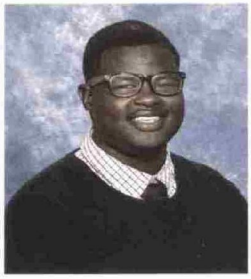
Class of 2018

Britney Brady

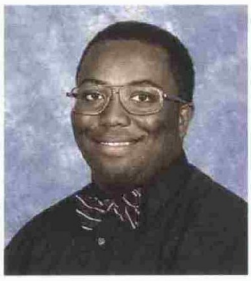


D'Angelo Brown

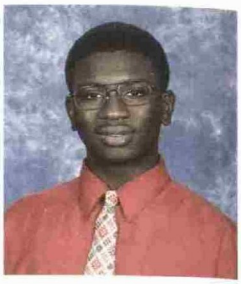
Dajamori' Brown



Jamari Brown



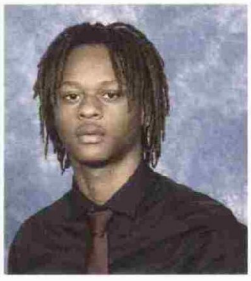
Keylian Brown



Tyler Brown

Airika Buckley

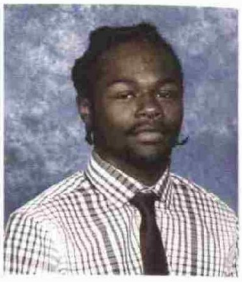
Madison Bullock



Neddie Burks III

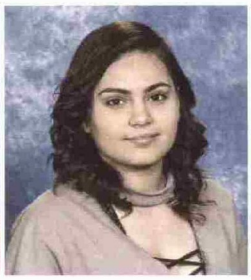
DeAnna Burton

Allure Calhoun



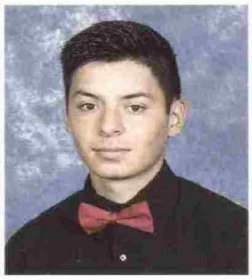
Davon Cameron

Michae Campbell



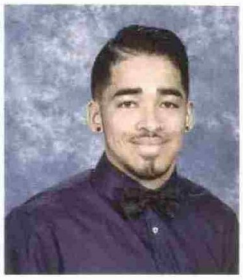
Barbara Carbajal

Adrianna Carey



Juan Carrillo

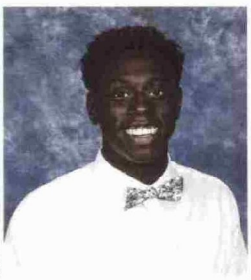
Kiariah Carter



Reginald Carter

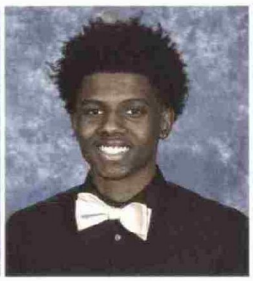
Danielle Castaneda

Dana Cheairs

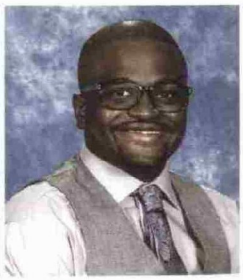


Maliq Cherry

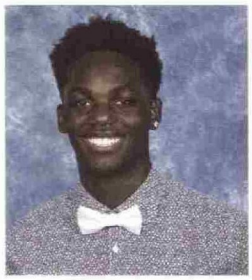
Ashley Chess



Nakia Chinn Jr



Robert Clark



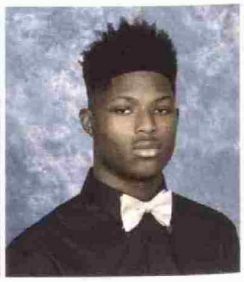
William Clay Jr

Jaydah Cobb

Kennedy Cole

Alysa Coleman

Angel Collins



Desmond Collins

Class of 2018

Jasmine Collins | Rosario Contreras | DaVeon Coty | Chante Coulter | Deameka Crawford | Timothy Crayton

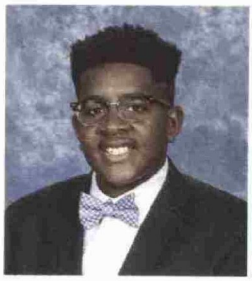
Terrance Cross Jr | Jalen Crowder | Azjanae Cruz | Dulce Cuazitl | Elizabeth Cuazitl | Miranda Cuozzo

Destiny Dantzler | Kinnedi Davis | Brandon Dawning | Briana Dean | Abigail Diaz | Keana Dorris

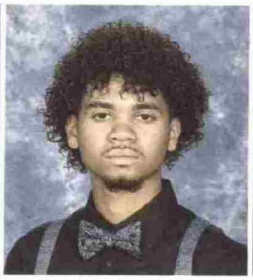
Natalya Durham | Natalie Dye | Romel Echarry II | Alec Edwards | Jada Edwards | Yantre Edwards

Keena Elliott | Raven Ewing | Ayanna Felton | Payton Felton | Taylashe Ferguson | Markus Fielder

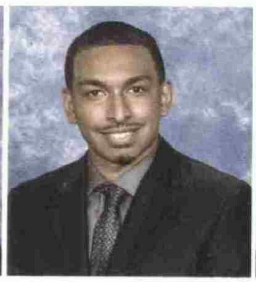
Class of 2018



Bryan Fields



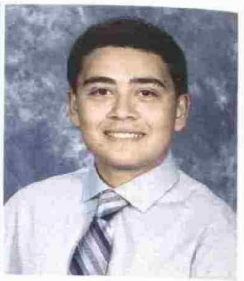
Cameron Figueroa



Wade Flournoy

Kameron Flowers

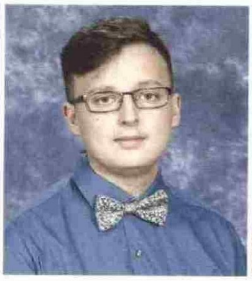
Brooklyn Ford



Jose Fragoso III

Maritza Frazier

Czaria Freeman



Cole Frey

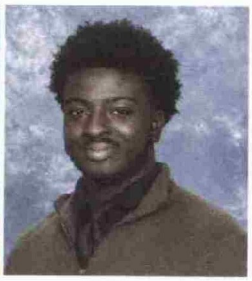
Camille Fuller

Nichole Gagliano

Te'Reyah Gaines

Jaylin Gamble

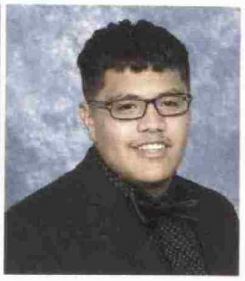
Jessica Gamble



Justin Gamble

Tamil Gamble

Mariah Ganier



Ramon Garcia-Valle

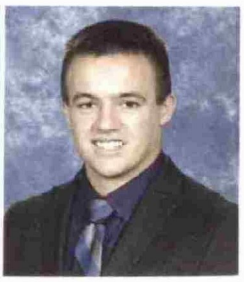
Jhonae Garmon

Kayln Gill

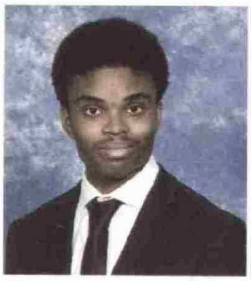
Ta-Tiana Gillis

Mia Godfrey

Antonett Goodlow

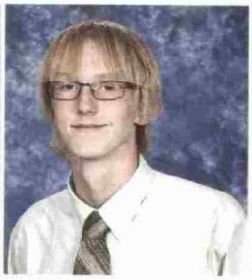


Maxwell Govert



John Grace Jr

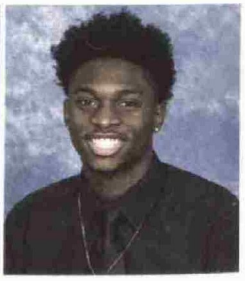
Asia Gray



James Green

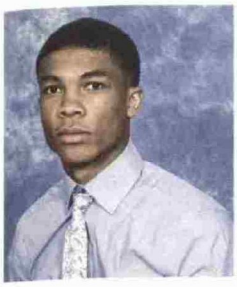
Tyanna Green

Medina Griffin

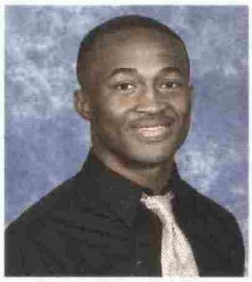


Robert Griffin

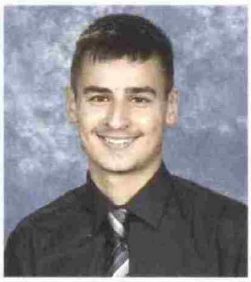
Class of 2018



Xavier Griffin



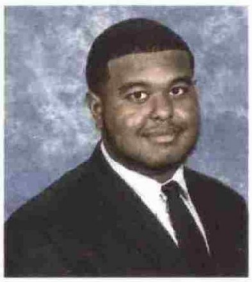
Aaron Griggs



Nicholas Groleau

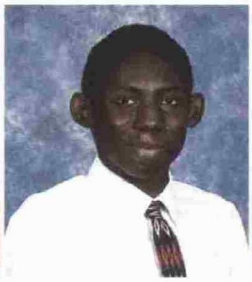
Victoria Gromek

Carly Gubitz

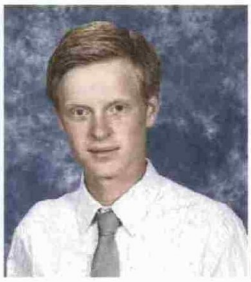


Edmund Gunn

Monique Guydon



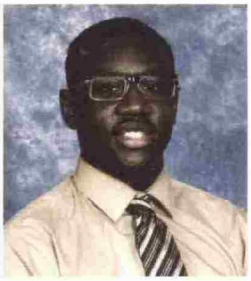
David Hagan Jr



Hayden Harmon

Shelby Harmon

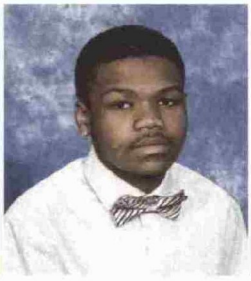
Marquise Harper



Desmond Harris

Jamia Harris

Khayla Harris

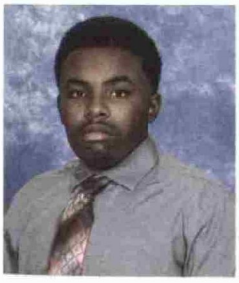


Marlon Harris

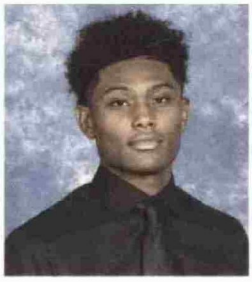
Tia Harrison

Marcus Hayes

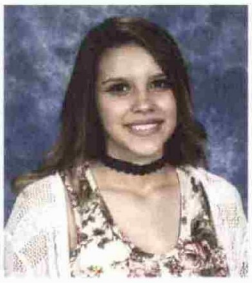
Leandrea Heath



Joshua Henderson



Tyler Henderson



Leslie Hernandez

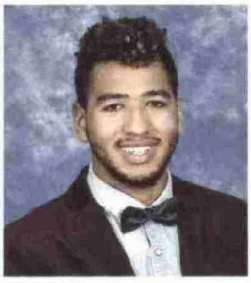
Amara Hester

Elizabeth Hibbler

Timeah Hicks

Christian Hill

Caleb Hiller



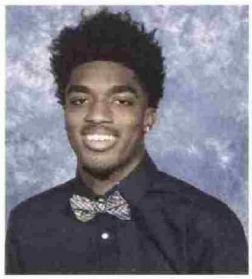
Justin Hinton

Dominique Holden

Nicole Hollowell

Atiya Holmes

Class of 2018



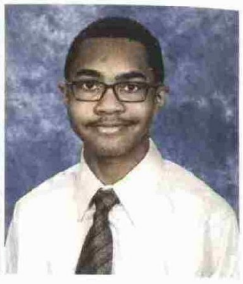
Jaylon Holmes

Tori Holst

Shyann Hopson

Christian Howard

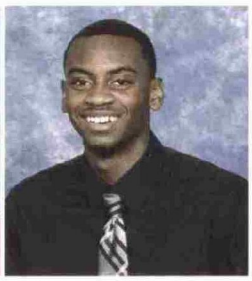
Kayla Hudson



Timothy Hughes

Alyssa Hunt

Trenton Hutch



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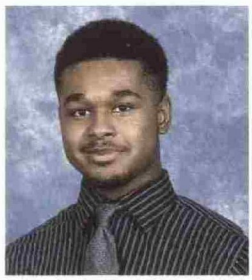
Jasmine Jaramillo

Tyler Jasso

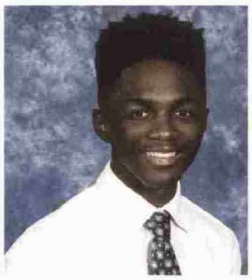
Antoine Johnson



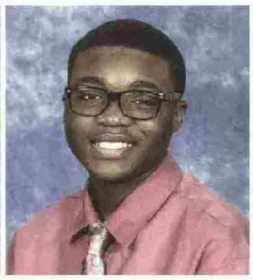
Isa Johnson

Jada Johnson

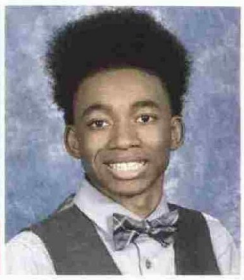
Kaylah Johnson



Kendall Johnson



Jovan Johnson Jr



Kentrell Jolley

Kaylin Jones

Kiarra Jones

Laquiana Jones

Lyric Jones

Tiarra Jones

Westley Jordan

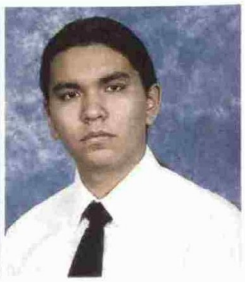
Denae Joshua

Kayla Josleyn

Sarah Juarez

Ke'leica Junigan

Brianna Kenyon



Justin Kiel

Class of 2018

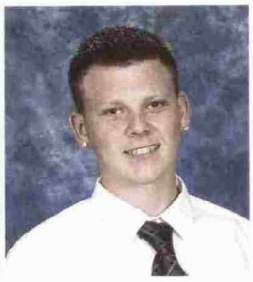
Deawnna Kimble

Dwayne King

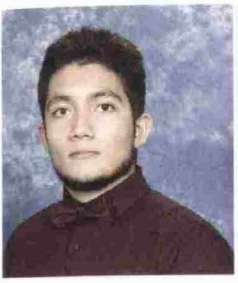
Autumn Kiser

Angelica Knox

Viviana Lagunas



Cameron Lamb



Jose Lamboy

Jade Law

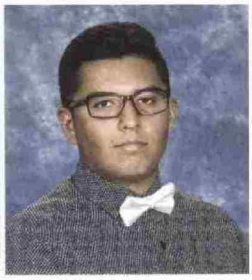
Danielle LeGrand

Emilie Leifelt

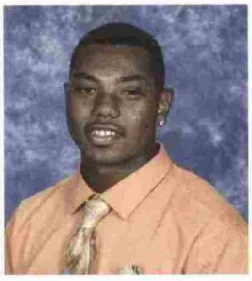
Shekinah Lenoir

Emily Lesich

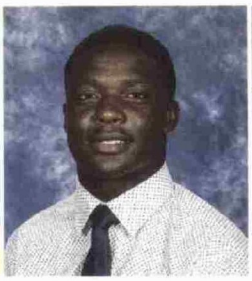
Leah Lewis



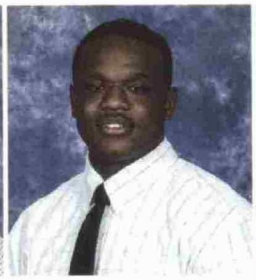
Christian Licea



KeShawn Lilly



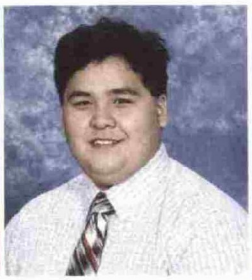
Tyjonn Lockett



Eric Lomax

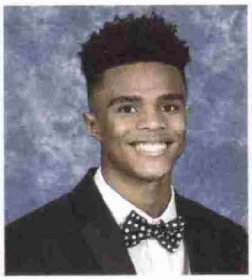
Najla Louis

Alexis Lumpkin

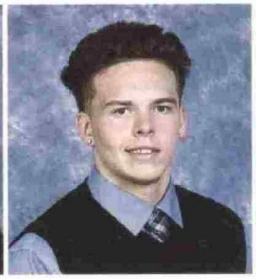


Gabriel Macapagal

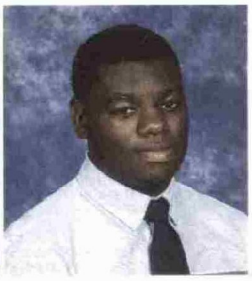
Tanecia Maclin



Melvin Magee



Eloy Maldonado



Camdoen Martin

Jasmine Martinez-Santa

Tiffany Mason

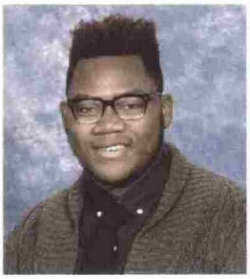
Ti'mair McMullan

Brendea McNeal

Leia Mesarch

Linyhia Meux-Miller

Class of 2018



Zion Middlebrooks

Damione Miller

Kayla Miller

Tanazah Miller

Kierra Moore

Cryst'n Morgan

Diamond Morris

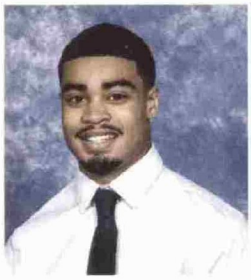
Carrington Morse

Zaire Moss

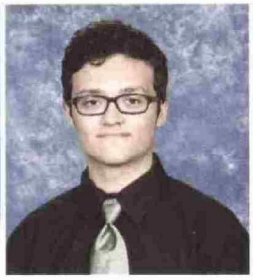
Vasotti Mottley

Molly Murphy

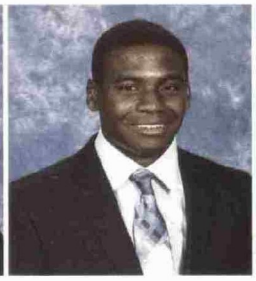
Alexander Navarro



Zyriek Nickson



Kyle Noonan

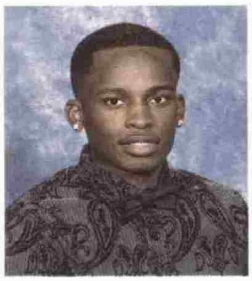


Brett Norton

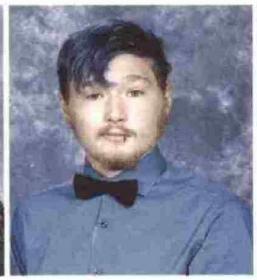
Beatriz Oliveira

Samantha Osborne

Keelan Outlar



Darrion Parker



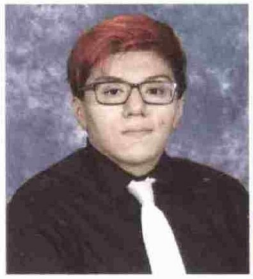
Nickolas Parker

Malik Passmore

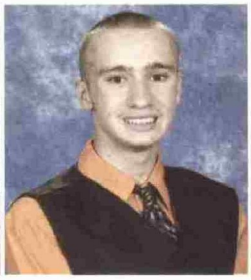
Bri'Yanna Pearson

Cecilia Pedroza

Angela Pejovski



Sam Perea

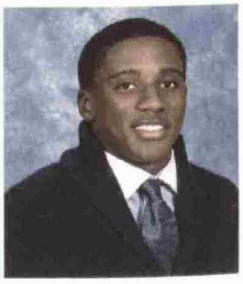


George Perosky

Tatiana Peters

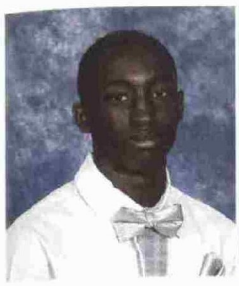
Kaniyah Pharms

Paul Pitts

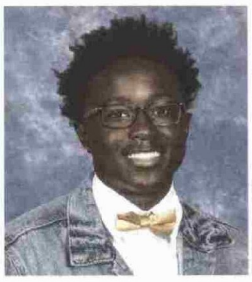


Dontrell Pope

Class of 2018



Khalil Porter

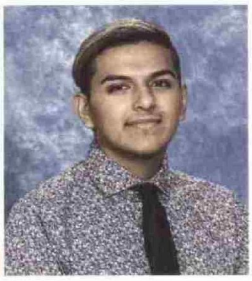


Timothy Porter

Tori Pruitt

Lauren Pryle

Stephanie Puente



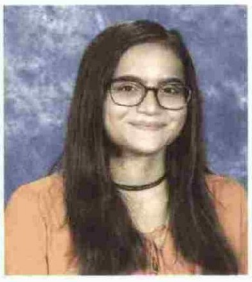
Edward Quintero

Cynthia Quiroz

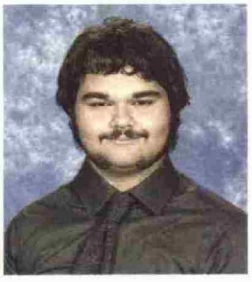
Alicia Ramirez

Marisol Ramirez

Alexis Ramos



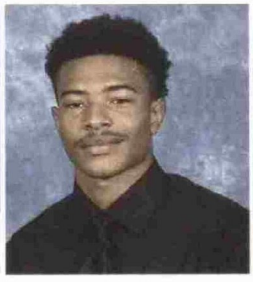
Damari Ramos



Eric Ramos

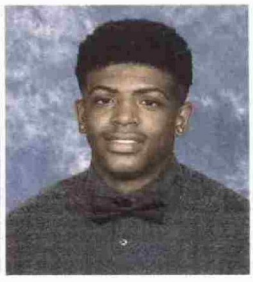
Marissa Ramos

La'Deja Rand



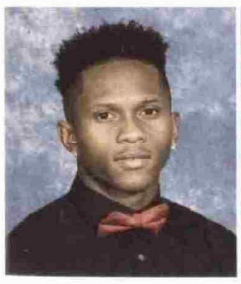
Denzel Randolph

Tanis Randolph

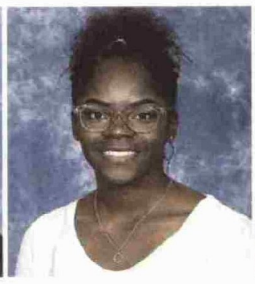


Elijah Reid

Raquel Reyes



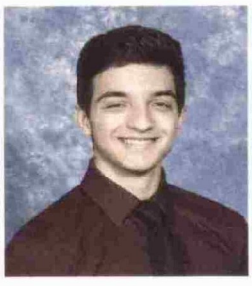
Justin Rhodes



Azaria Richardson

Elaycia Riley

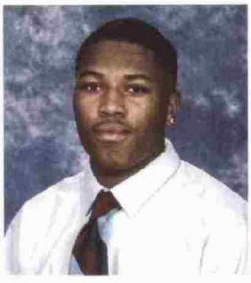
Kylah Rivera



Christopher Riveron

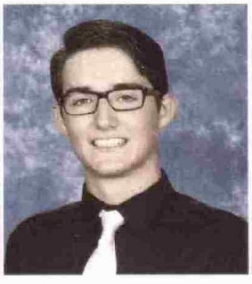
Janel Roberts

Ashlyn Robinson



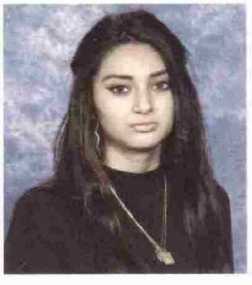
Delaun Robinson

Derrionne Robinson



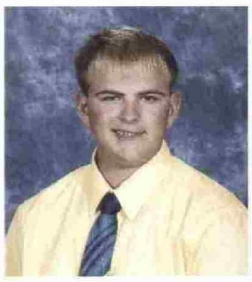
Keith Rochefort Jr

Zaria Rock



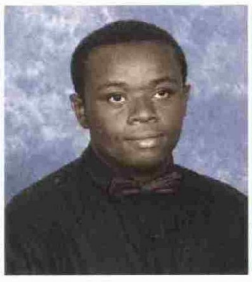
Allison Rodriguez

Class of 2018



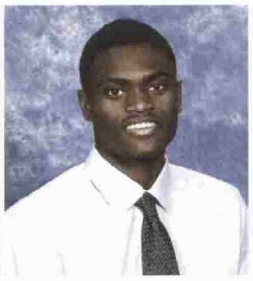
Gregory Romeo

Devon Rose



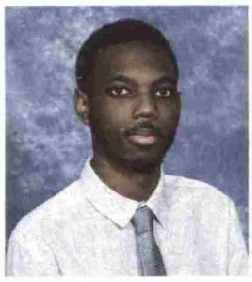
Elliott Ruffin Jr

Tyler Russell

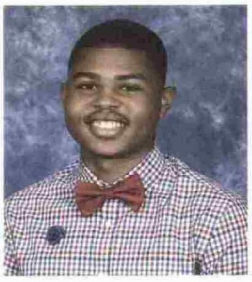


Chaz Sales

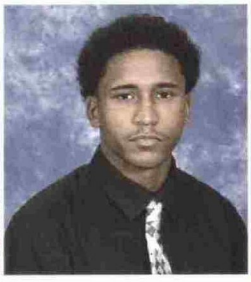
Collin Sanders



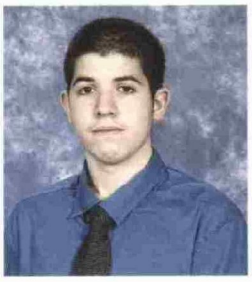
Dana Sanders



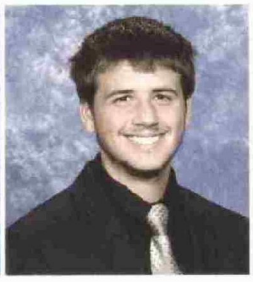
Robert Sanders Jr



Jacob Sandridge

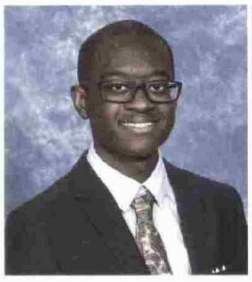


Christopher Saporito



John Sawyer

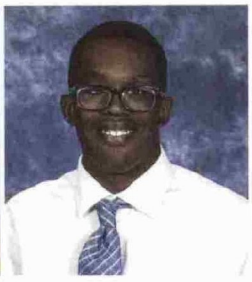
Gabrielle Schindler



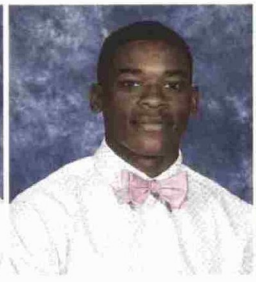
Brandon Scott

Le'Anna Scott

Erica Serros

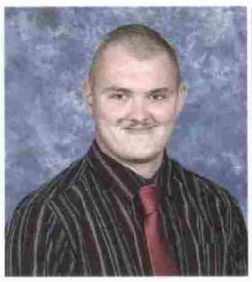


Justin Setzer



Michael Shell III

Aeriel Shelton



Preston Shirley

Savannah Shirley

Sulianett Sierra Rosario

Erin Sims

Armani Smith

Cayla Smith

Christian Smith

D'Mia Smith

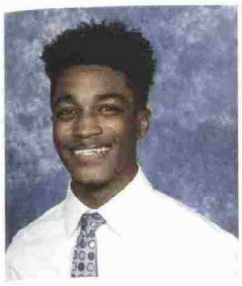
Kamri Smith

Rubin Smith

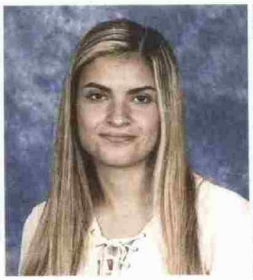
Sierre Smith

William Smith

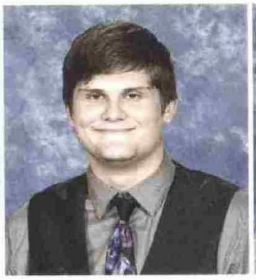
Class of 2018



Xavier Smith

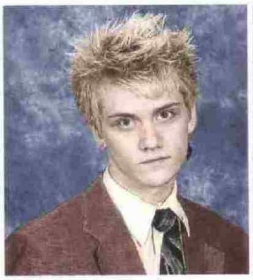


Reannah Soto



Matthew Spicknall

Kyra Stevens

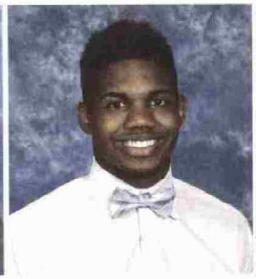


Joseph Stevenson

Aaliyah Stewart

Tamia Stingley

Angelo Strong

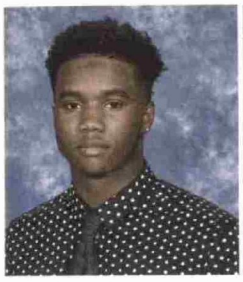


Braedan Stubbs

Diamond Taher

Chadryne Bea Tamo

Jansen Tan



Kendall Tanniehill

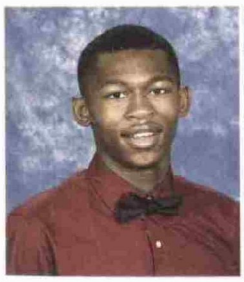
Kennedy Tanniehill

Ivelisse Taylor

Olivia Taylor

Markeonti Teamer

Meagan Thomas



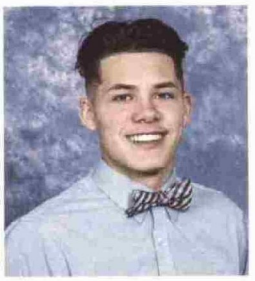
Nolen Thomas

Samantha Thomas

Sabrina Thormann

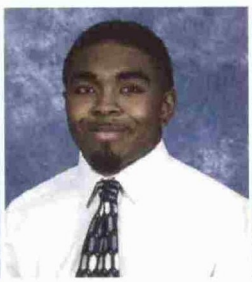
Sarah Thormann

Jubilee Topps



Angelo Torres

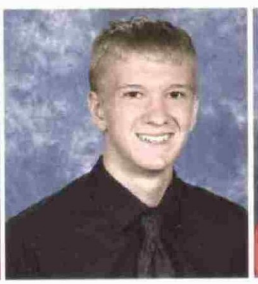
Kayla Trotter



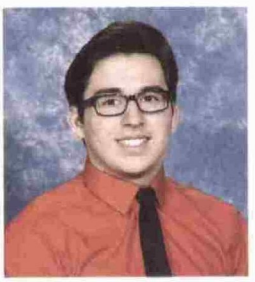
Ah'zsur Ursery

Prysma Valdivia

Brianna Vanderbilt



Tyler VanVleet



Aaron Vara

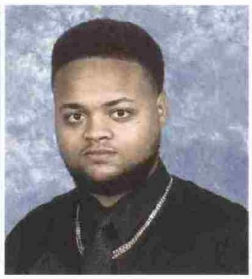
Class of 2018

Katelyn Vinson

Xitlalic Viramontes-Renteria

Selena Wagonblast

Erica Walton

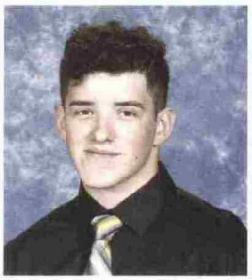


Brian Ward

Akilah Ware

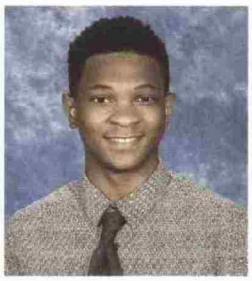
Diamond Ware

Darieus Westbrook



Aaron Whitaker

Aahron Whitehead



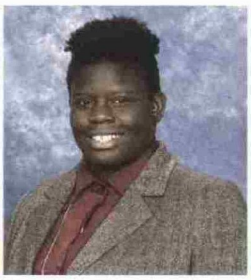
JaKobe Wilbon

Alyssia Williams

Aneia Williams

Briana Williams

Brittney Williams



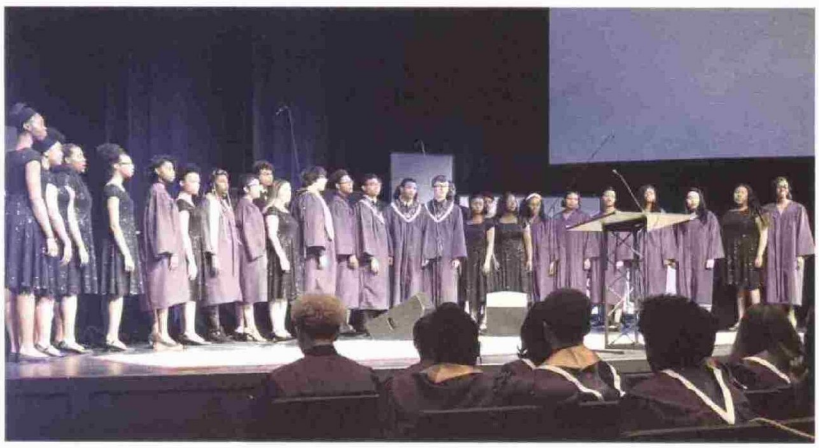
Mercedes Williams

Shaina Williams

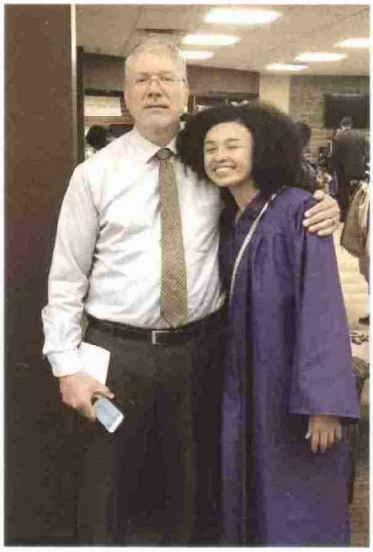
Tyonna Williams

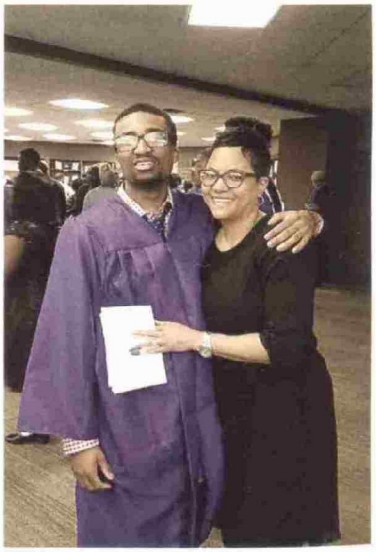
Spiritual *gathering*

seniors celebrate upcoming graduation at interfaith ceremony



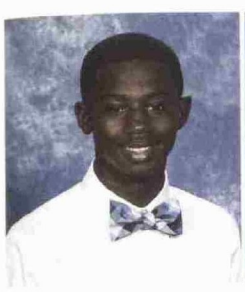
Raising their voices // As part of the ceremony, the graduating seniors join fellow choir members as they energize the crowd with inspirational music.





Special speakers // After the ceremony, Mr. Wade Boise poses with Tatiana Peters (left). Peters and Christian Bracey (right) were voted most spiritual by their fellow seniors and received the honor of speaking at the ceremony. Mr. Boise was also selected by the seniors to speak, and he inspired them when he said, "I don't love my job. I love my students."

Class of 2018



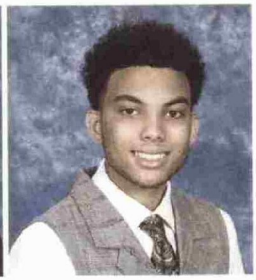
Preston Williamson

Samantha Williamson

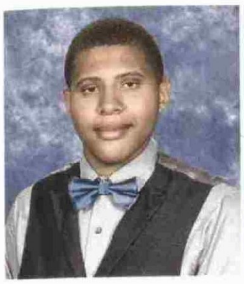
Courtney Wilson

Alana Winters

Meagan Wise



Roy Wood



Cameron Woods

Keyerra Woods

Shianne Woods

Jayla Wright

Jadah Yanders

Ari'Yonna Young

Gabriyan Young

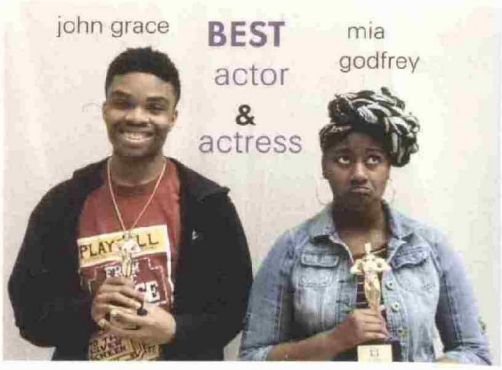
camera-shy seniors

Cora'Taya Adams
Robert Adams
Thomas Adams
Carli Anderson
Kenneth Armstrong
Marcus Ashe
Carlos Avalos
Alanna Bankhead
Daniel Barajas
Antino Barnes
Paul Berry
Kaleb Bertsch
Paul Bowens
De'sjuan Bowling
Christopher Bowman
Rah'naysha Boyd
Molly Boykin
Noah Bradley
Airashaie Brooks
Antonio Brooks
Justin Brown
Trevon Brown
William Brumfield
Dylan Burns
Wayan Caldwell
Jaizon Calvert
Alejandra Camargo
Courtney Campbell
Brittany Cardenas
Kevin Carter
Lianna Celestin
Ronald Chandler
Armonn Chavez
Daveontay Clark
Qua'lyn Cowart
Savannah Cox
Nicholas Cross
Alexis Decia
Diana Del Real
Monique Denton
Alicia Derr
Ranea Dixon
Julia Ducret
Nathan Dye
Fatima Esquivel
Felicia Estrada
Luis Estrada
Kadari Exson
Kamryn Ford
Brianna Frey
Aliyah Galliday
Jorge Gaona
Armani Gardner
Ian Garrison
Dalajamane Garza
Daquan Gibson
Christian Glover
Israell Gordon
Nickolas Gray
Brianna Grygar
Tori Hardin
Nautica Hardy
DeVante Harris
Danielle Hathaway
Antoine Hawkins
Christia Haywood
Kendall Heffner-Woodson
Dontrell Henderson
Julian Henderson
Austin Hendricks
Marcos Hernandez Meija
Heather Herrera
Stephanie Herrera
Shaylon Hill
Taelor Hill
Leayah Hines
Malik Hoover
TaiYauna Howard
Jasmine Huff
James Ireland
Jerome Jackson
Elijah Jefferson
Cayla Jenkins
Elyssa Jenkins
Juwan Jenkins
Robert Jett
Carlos Jimenez
Alexis Jones
Brianna Jones
Patrick Joseph
O'Sean Kelly-Williams
Sydney Kenner
Aaliyah King
Kevon King
Kristen Kuykendoll
Kenron Laing
Brad Lawrence
Xavier Lee
Brittanie Lewis
Terry Lowe
Damaryon Mac
Tanecia Maclin
Raheim Manuel
Jada Martin
Jeanette Martinez
Ramiyah Mayo
George McClendon
Tanea McEwen
Denzel McGriggs
Asia McLean
Treshawn McMorris
Shakir Meux
Elaine Miller
Dijon Minnis
Tylum Moncreace
Gregory Moran
Ibra Ndiour
Joshua Noble
Mariah Nobles
Kobe Norfleet
Sachae Nunn
Joy Obong
De'leon Palmer
Key'A Parker
Jorge Parra
Dimitruis Payne
Damaris Perry
Guadalupe Pozos
Monica Prince
Mark Randolph
Kwante' Ray
Kailynn Reed
Simeon Reed
Nihayla Rias
Amari Ritchie
Enrique Rivera
Omar Rivera
Nya Rodgers
Kristyn Rogers
Derrick Roland
Leonardo Romero
Julian Salamanca
Jaime Scott
Joseph Silvas
Carlos Sims
Jonathan Sims
Amariah Smith
Jordan Smith
Ryan Smith
Raymond Span
Dalvin Speight
Sincere Stitt
Brandon Streck
Brandon Taylor
Maurice Thomas
Cameron Thompson
Heaven Tomlinson
Karis Toney
Tamara Trimble
Frida Trujillo
Derion Unger
Dawon Velez
Kyrann Walker
Nicholas Walker
Dondre' Wall
Kennedy Waller
Tyanna Watson
Dennis Weston
Jasmine White
Preston Williamson
Samantha Williamson
Israel Woods
Ronald Woods
De'Jah Woodson
Abigail Zahora

senior *choice*

MOST school spirit

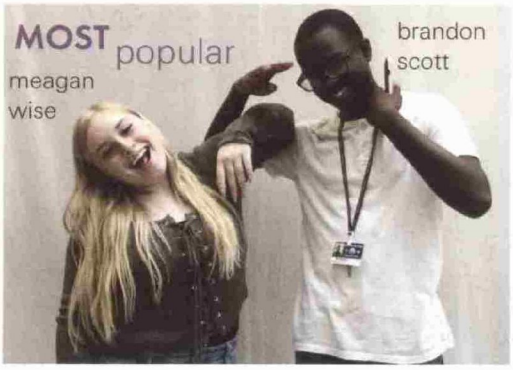
emily lesich



john grace

BEST actor & actress

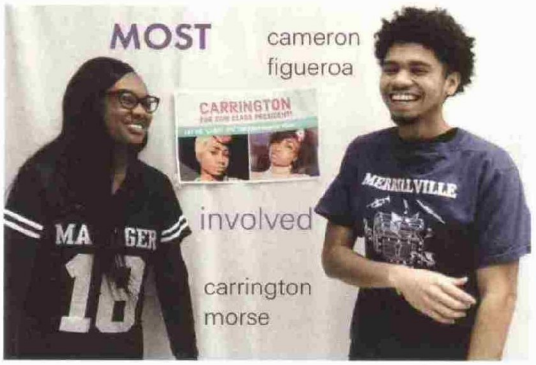
mia godfrey



MOST popular

meagan wise

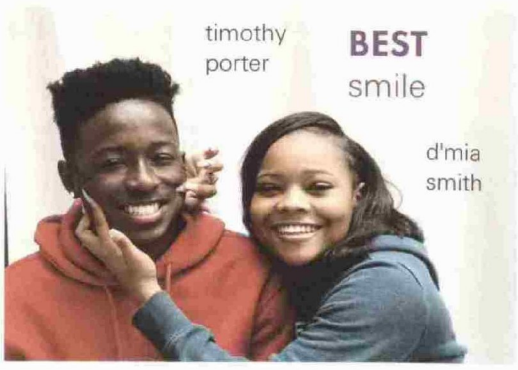
brandon scott



MOST involved

cameron figueroa

carrington morse



timothy porter

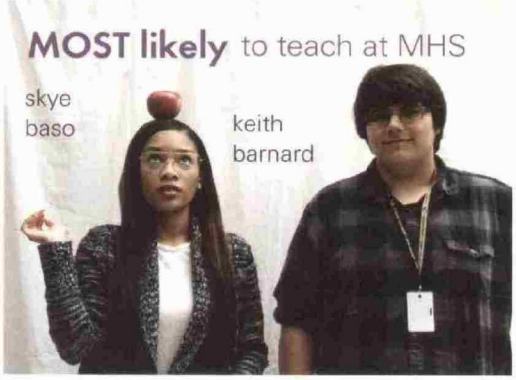
BEST smile

d'mia smith

MOST musical

mia godfrey

cameron figueroa



MOST likely to teach at MHS

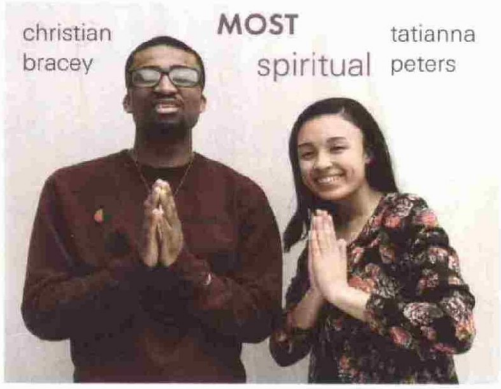
skye baso

keith barnard

nicholas walker

BEST dancer

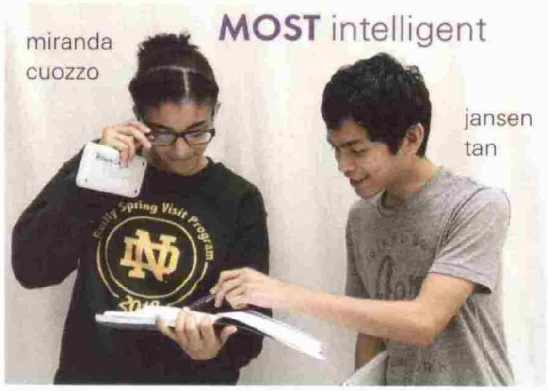
alyssa hunt



christian bracey

MOST spiritual

tatianna peters



miranda cuozzo

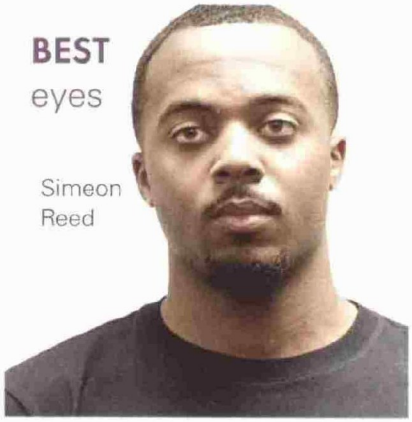
MOST intelligent

jansen tan

BEST dressed

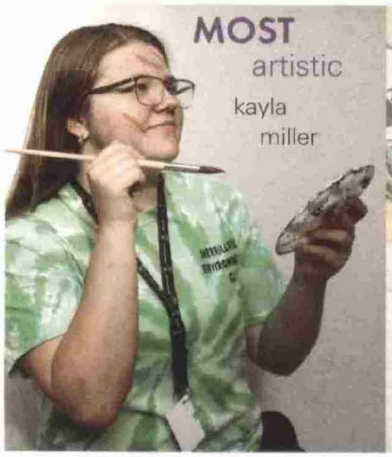
ivelisse taylor

zyriek nickson



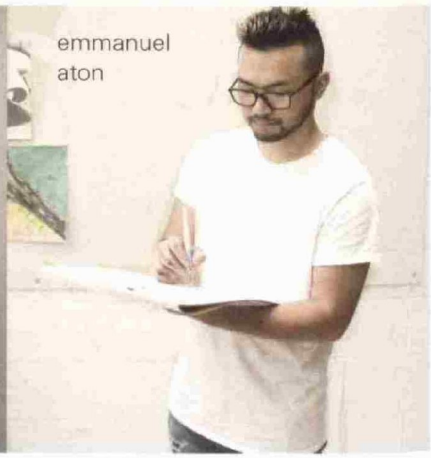
BEST eyes

Simeon Reed

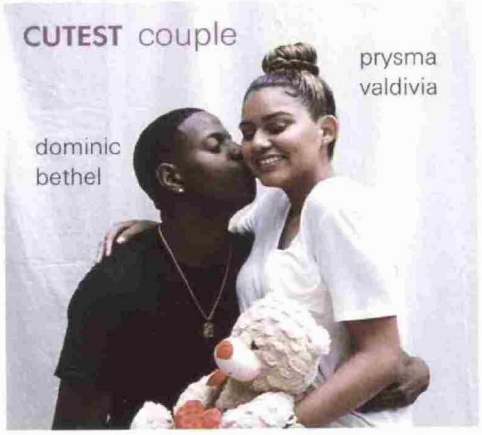


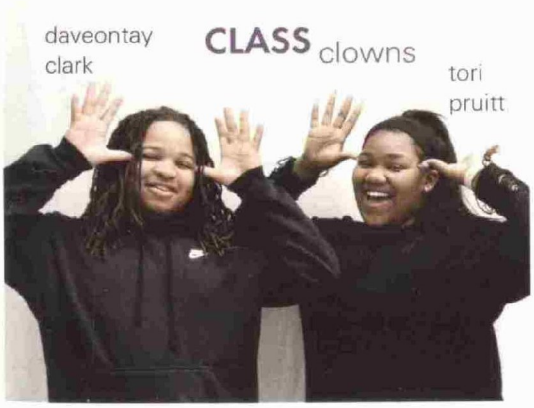
MOST artistic

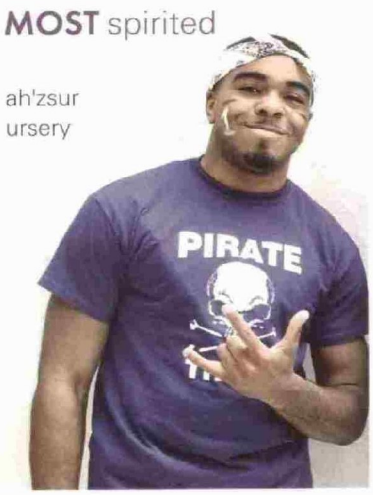
kayla miller



emmanuel aton







award winners

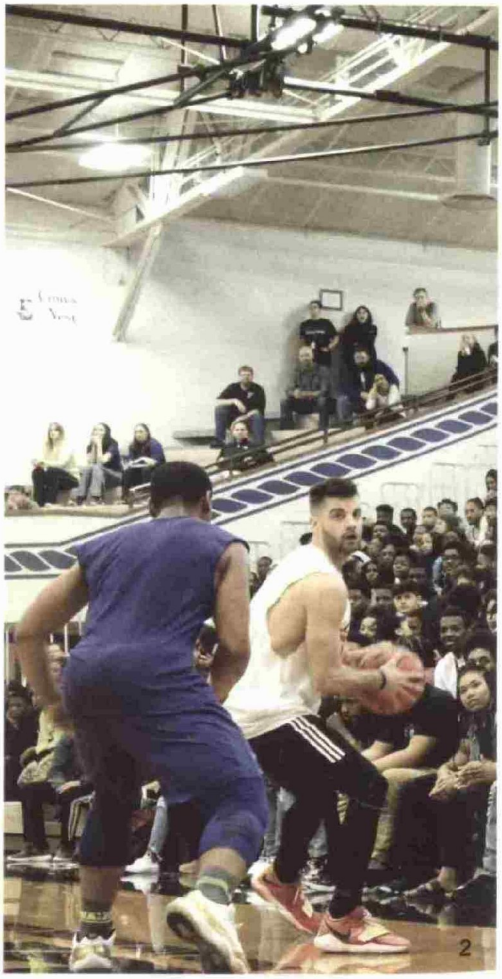
photos by D. Castaneda

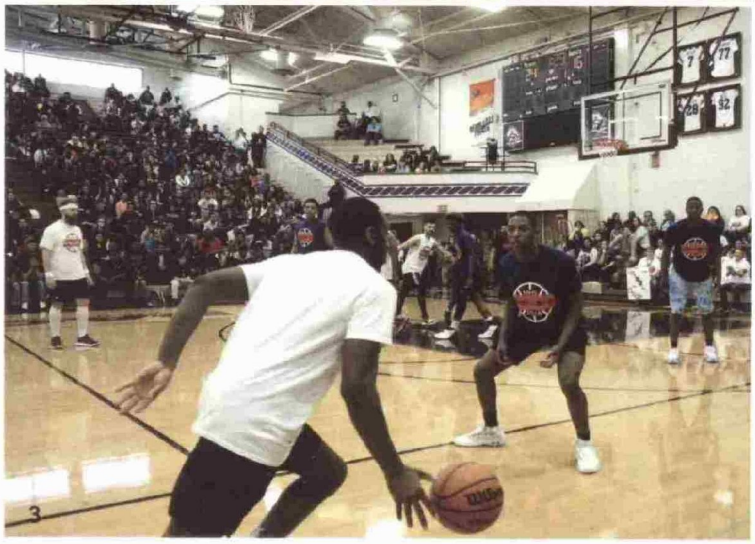
What goes up . . . // While a packed gym watches, Michael Shell and his fellow seniors wait to rebound a ball. When asked what the highlight of the game was, Shell said, "The crowd itself. Just the energy we had, and playing with my friends for the last time." // Photo by I. Johnson

hoop *dreams*

the seniors' hopes for a victory proved futile as the faculty won again

Hyping the crowd // After the game, Mr. Bryant Isabell and Daymond East (11) get in the spirit of the festivities. The faculty had reason to celebrate as their winning streak continued with a 51-43 victory. The faculty has not lost since 2006. // Photo by I. Butts.





Tough 'D' // With Michael Shell playing tight defense, Mr. Jake Raspopovich looks for an opportunity to pass. // Photo by I. Johnson

Drive time // On the run, Mr. Anthony "Bo" Patton drives to the net looking for his fellow faculty members to make a move. Mr. Patton was named game MVP with 21 points. // Photo by I. Johnson

Battle under the net // Playing tight defense, Michael Shell gets sandwiched as Mr. Kenny Smith brings a rebound down. // Photo by I. Johnson.

Never say die // As the ball goes up, both sides stand ready for a possible rebound. Although the faculty took an early lead, the seniors never gave up. // Photo by I. Butts

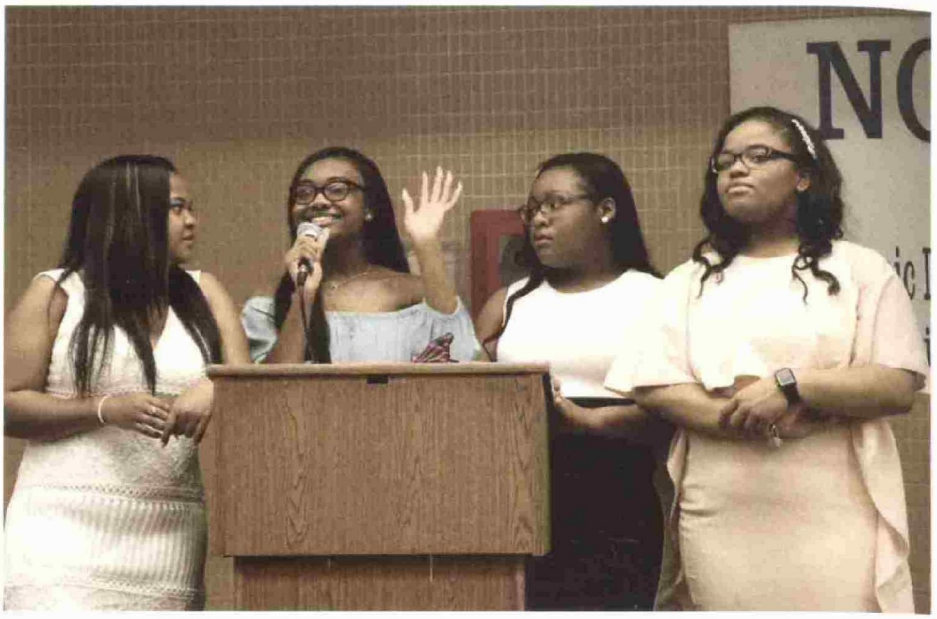
Junior jeers & senior cheers // The junior class, above, and the seniors, at right, enjoyed taunting each other throughout the game. When asked for a high

Waiting for the shot // Watching his opponents carefully, Kameron Flowers waits for the perfect shot. // Photo by I. Butts

Ready, set . . . // During halftime of the basketball game, the finals of the dodgeball tournament take place with seniors and staff racing for an advantage as time begins. The faculty members continued their winning streak. // Photo by I. Johnson

meals & wheels

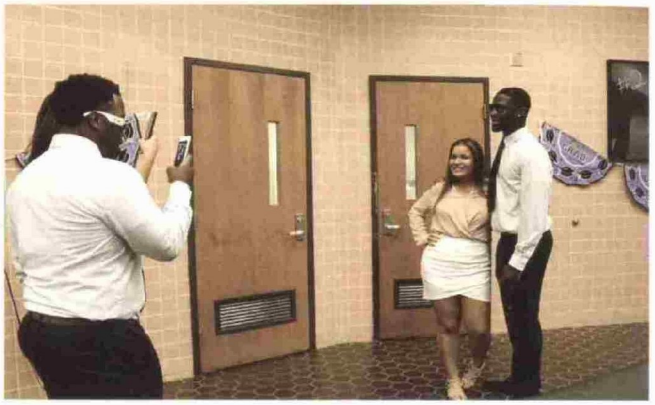
seniors enjoy chance to gather one last time before graduation



Greeting the crowd // Waving to the crowd, Class President Carrington Morse prepares to recognize the Senior Choice Award winners with fellow officers Ashlyn Robinson, Madison Bullock and Jada Edwards.

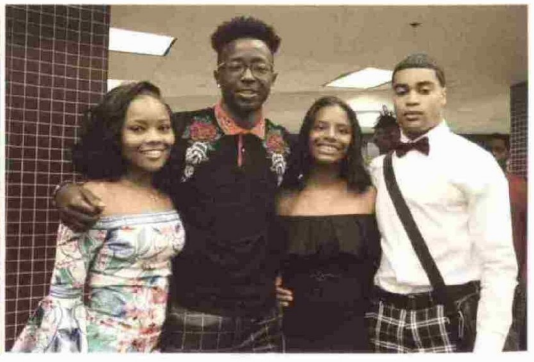
Breakfast club // Sharing a moment, Reannah Soto and Olivia Taylor pose while eating during the Senior Breakfast.

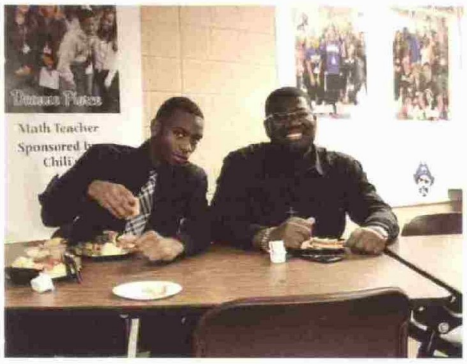
Smile for a mile // Kwante' Ray takes a break to smile for the photographer.



Camera ready // As their friends take photos, Tyjonn Lockett and Viviana Lagunas strike a pose.

All dressed up// Dressed in their Sunday best, seniors check in before entering the breakfast. // Photo by I. Butts





Dynamic duo // Before the presentations, Jaylin Jackson and Yantre Edwards enjoy a chance to eat and talk.

Staying cool // Sporting their shades, Linyhia Meux-Miller and Allure Calhoun talk with friends over breakfast.

Fashion forward // Showing off their unique style, D'Mia Smith, Timothy Porter, Diamond Taher and Zyriek Nickson pose together.

Front row // After getting their food, Airika Buckley, John Grace Jr., Ronald Woods, D'Angelo Brown and David Hagan Jr. prepare to dig in.

At left, Molly Murphy waves goodbye as she exits for the day with friend Carly Gubitz.

At right, Isa Johnson perches on the back as Jhonae Garmon drives her silver convertible.

At left, Reggie "Chico" Carter leaves for the day with Maxwell Govert (driving).

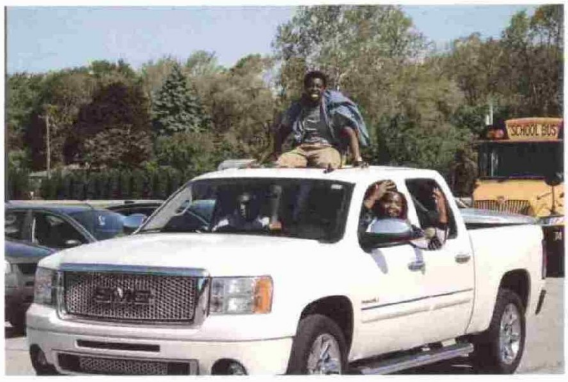
At right, Dontrell Pope takes it easy as he prepares to make his exit.

At left, George Perosky travels in style in this classic sports car.

At right, Autumn Kiser and friends enjoy the view from her bright red Mustang convertible.

At left, Aaron Whitaker, Jose Lamboy and Treasure Green enjoy the view from the back of a convertible.

At right, Austin Hendricks pops out of the sunroof for a photo before Kevin Carter drives away from the school.

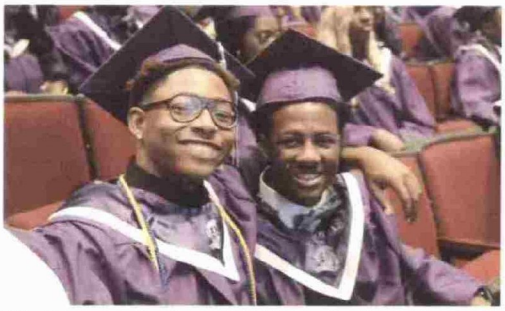


At left, Emily Lesich waves goodbye as she heads out for the day.

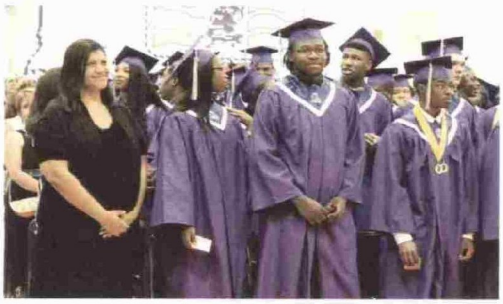
At right, Maliq Cherry and Gabriyan Young show off as they leave school.

Photos by T. Patterson

Photos by I. Butts



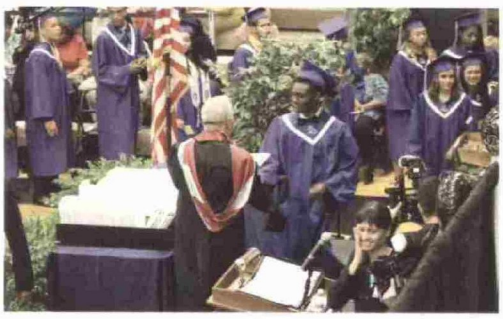
Marking a milestone // Celebrating their friendship, Trenton Hutch and Malik Passmore wait in the auditorium before the start of the ceremony.



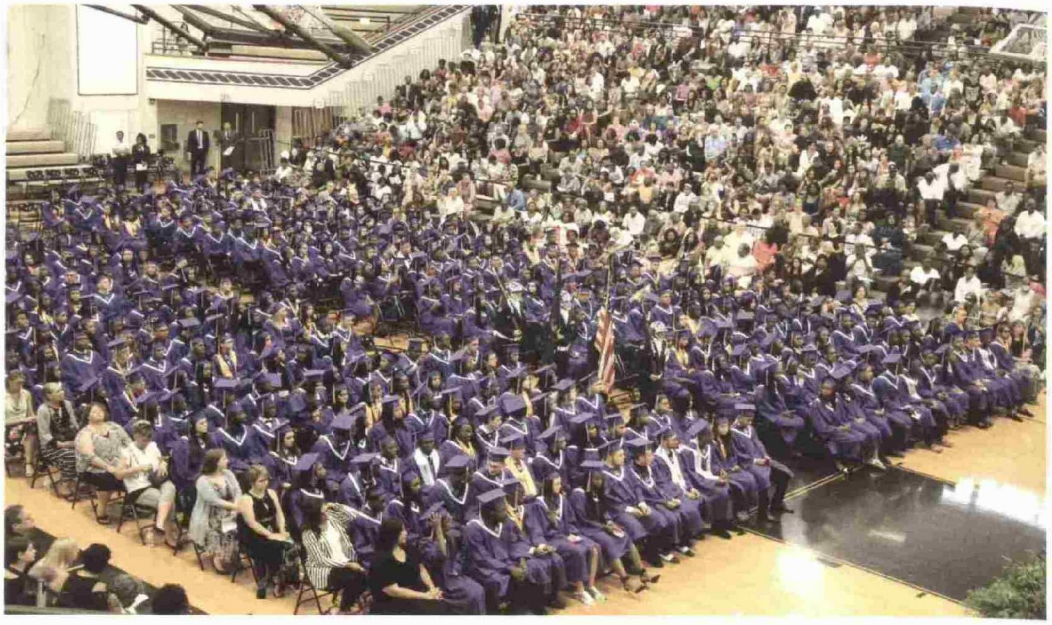
Waiting anxiously // As the other graduates file in, the front row looks around for family and friends.

All smiles // Smiling happily, Heather Herrera receives her diploma from Supt. Michael Berta.

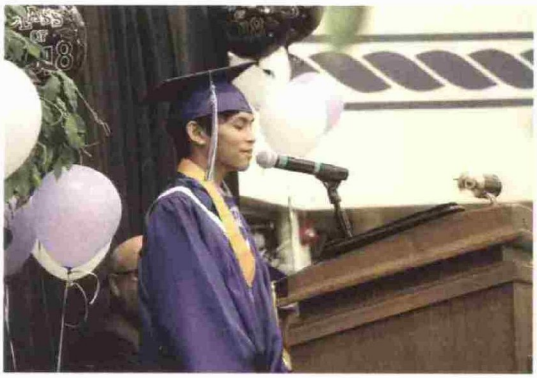
Taking the stage // After accepting her diploma, Brianna Kenyon shakes hands with Supt. Michael Berta.

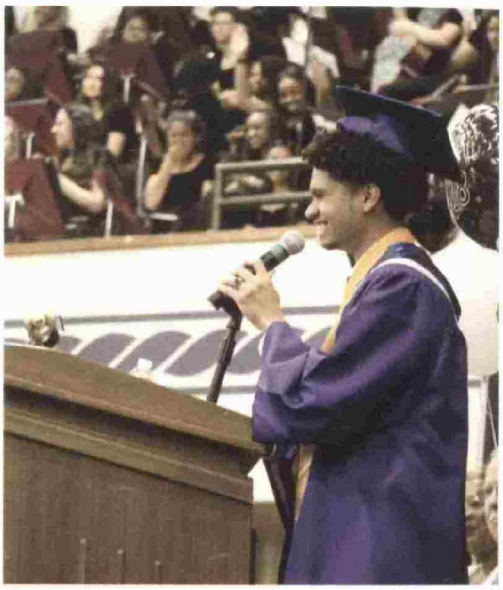


Graduating in style // As his name is called, Tyler Henderson takes center stage to receive his diploma.



View from above // As the graduates take their seats, the gymnasium becomes a sea of purple.



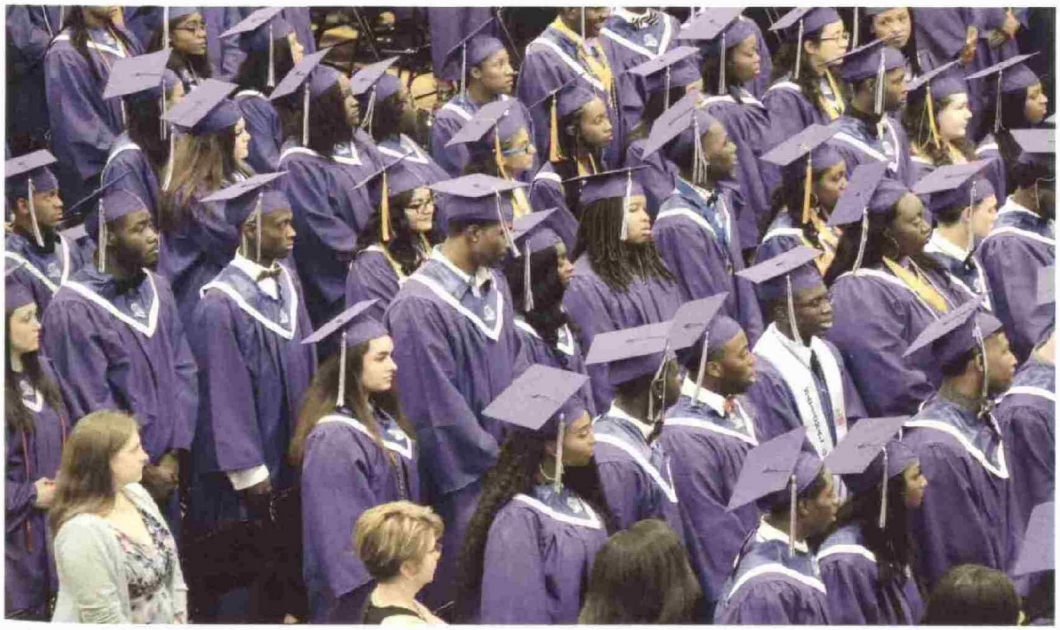


Saying good-bye // Co-valedictorians Jansen Tan (above) and Cameron Figueroa (right) take their turns in the spotlight. In their speeches, they shared some wisdom, some laughs and some favorite memories of times with their classmates.

The night's line-up // The night's speakers take their place on the stage. From left are: Principal Mike Krutz, Class President Carrington Morse, Salutatorian Kate Vinson, Valedictorian Cameron Figueroa, Valedictorian Jansen Tan, Treasurer Madison Bullock and Mr. Anthony Patton, chosen by the students to speak for graduation. Mr. Patton spoke of his special bond with these students and praised their accomplishments and drive.

Pirate pride on display

Grand entrance // Showing her excitement, Alana Bankhead waves to the crowd as she takes her place at the start of the commencement ceremony.



Standing at attention // As the choir sings the national anthem, the graduates stand, eagerly waiting for their diplomas to be passed out.

It's over // As he returns to his seat, Aaron Whitaker celebrates receiving his diploma.

Intermediate Choir

Director: Mrs. Melinda Reinhart

Front Row: Jordin Cowherd, Makayla Jones, Gabrelle Lobins, Tyanna Green, Arianna Herrod, Nadja Ireland, Alyssa Noland, Jaylah Croft, Braden Worthington. **Second Row:** Caitlin Perosky, Jacob Vara, Sam Perea, Damon Bigham, Jeremy White, Aysia Kirklen; **Third Row:** Victoria Rivera, Erin Escobar, Jaeden Newman, Noah Harris, George Perosky, Savannah Shirley, Leah Mallon. **Back Row:** Sharell Fleming, Elizabeth Hibbler, Maleek Cole, Trayvon Cargo, Joshua Roberts, Chante'l Williams, Cassandra Navarro.

Advanced Choir

Director: Ms. Melinda Reinhart

Front Row: Kaylah Johnson, Mia Godfrey, Jasmine Jaramillo, Kailey Walaszek, Ja'Leah Walker, Cara Blanford, Kiariah Carter, Najalynn Chandler; **Second Row:** Kylah Nicholson, Aniya Edwards, John Grace, Jr., Trenton Hutch, JaKobe Wilbon, Jordan Munchenburg, Eelecia Garron, Te'Reyah Gaines, Nicole Hollowell; **Third Row:** Kaila Buggs, Caitlynne Vickerstaff, Courtni Williams, Tyler Russell, Gabriel Macapagal, Azjanae Cruz, Naomi Fields, Danielle LeGrand; **Fourth Row:** Keith Barnard, Xavier King, Lucas Reinhart, Nikola Djukic, Christian Glover; **Not Pictured:** Emmanuel Aton, Devin Pope, Amaya Butler

Intermediate Choir

Director: Mrs. Melinda Reinhart

Front Row: Emane' Triplett, Joslyn Munoz, Lorena Carbajal, Nijah Meux, Katelyn Ann Suan, Lauryn Dubose, Maja Pejovski, Cierra Hernandez, Klimentina Pejovski, Tianna Travis, Alexis Smith, Miracle Davenport; **Second Row:** Kamryn Johnson, Adrianna Carter, Caroline Buckrop, Aneia Williams, Arianna Jarrett, Kayla Parkham, Serena Roldan, Taijah Smith, Leia Mesarch, Heaven Tomlinson, Brianna Ward; **Third Row:** Deonna Haywood, Shianne Woods, Cle'a Bray, Daija Jones, Samaria Price, Taylashe Ferguson, Britney Brady, Jailene Perez, Armani Smith, Cecilia Adame-Davalos, Andrea Tice, Lavader Tiney; **Back Row:** Jillian Skokal, Moriah Madkins, Lailoni Chamberlain, Kennedy Halliburton, Annalise Holmes, Sasha Dailey, Ma'Kaela Patterson, Anjel Highbaugh, Arielle Lackey, Corrin Haughee, Sade' Daniel, Briany Wagner.

Voices of Reason

Director: Mrs. Melissa Reinhart

Front Row: SaSha Dailey, Alexis Smith, Sade' Daniel, Justus White, Xavier King. **Not pictured:** John Grace Jr., Arielle Lackey, Tyler Russell, Christian Glover, Nijah Meux, Samaria Price

Jazz Orchestra

Director: Ms. Diane Rosenthal

Front Row: Damari Ramos, Asia Gray; **Second Row:** Joshua Brooks, Jordan Kincade, Serena Robertson, Cheyenne Figueroa, Daria Johnson, Ms. Rosenthal, Maria Tan, Stephanie Puente, Matthew Spicknall; **Third Row:** Joshua Lopez, Daniel Hernandez, Scarlett Peralta, Jada Edwards, Erryonne Watts, Ti'Mair McMullan, Madison Bullock; **Fourth Row:** Alex Murphy, Kayla Danaher, Bailey Rapavi, Deonna Bowens, Mikayla Lemons, Nadia Jones, Alexis Lumpkin; **Back Row:** Kyle Noonan, Donovan Marteen, Hailey Karpen, Javonne Spivey, Nijaia Jones, Patience Lyles, Ivan Sahagun, Lauren Pryle

Advanced Orchestra

Sponsor: Ms. Diane Rosenthal
Front Row: D'angelo Brown, Tyler Jasso, Benjamin Green, Justin Hinton, William Smith, Brendea McNeal, Asia Gray; **Second Row:** Samora Patrick, Jordan Kincade, Serena Robertson, Linyhia Meux-Miller, Imani Butts, Ms. Rosenthal, Cheyenne Roberts, Tori Holst, Matthew Spicknall; **Third Row:** Reem Sulieman, Rosario Contreras, Maria Tan, Dulce Cuazitl, Bea Tamo, Cheyenne Figueroa, Katelyn Vinson, Janaye Thomas; **Fourth Row:** Cryst'n Morgan, Nadia Jones, Madison Bullock, Jada Edwards, Shaina Williams; Viviana Lagunas, Scarlett Peralta, Gabrielle Schindler; **Back Row:** Kyle Noonan, Donovan Marteen, Hailey Karpen, Lauren Pryle, Nijaia Jones, Bailey Rapavi, Jhonae Garmon, Tatiana Peters, Kayla Miller, Jaden LaRue; **Not pictured:** Lloyd James, Nialah Clay, Damari Ramos

Intermediate Orchestra 2nd hour

Director: Ms. Diane Rosenthal
Front Row: Brookelyn Burks, Lauryn Thomas, Donmeique Yates; **Second Row:** Ronald Woods, Natalie Ordonez, Elisha Cooper, Ms. Rosenthal, Abigail Smith, Gabriela Aponte, Maria Guardiola, Jeremiah Williams; **Third Row:** Amari Pryor, Lauren Moody, Angela Pejovski, Taelor Hill, Kennedy Tanniehill, Daria Johnson; **Fourth Row:** Joshua Lopez, Mason Martisauskas, Chasity Irizarry, Autum Bainbridge, Aminah Samba, Kaylee Conner, Erryonne Watts, Daniel Hernandez; **Fifth Row:** Jakailyn Aaron, Akilah Ware, Alexis Lumpkin, Enrique Ortiz, Patience Lyles, Sierra Ward, Brian Dilosa; **Not pictured:** Diego DeLa Cruz, Cristian Gutierrez, Tykia Jones, Kristah Royster, Brandon Scott, Jackie Velasco, Angelay Woods, Alexandria Murphy

Beginning Orchestra

Director: Ms. Diane Rosenthal
Front Row: Katrina Griffith, Kiley Creal, Sonnet Smith, Alexis Garcia; **Second Row:** Tierra Sellers, Zion Elliott, Cailynn Dilosa, Lilly Colwell, Ms. Rosenthal, Aaliyah Moreno, Jalynn Jones, Naomi Powell, Vayonda Harris, Allison Richardson; **Third Row:** Jose Campos, Allison Polk, Jordan Yanders, Stephany Valladares, Mialani Cruz, Kimaya Thomas, Diamond Klyce, Jordyn Greek, Sydney Jackson; **Fourth Row:** Axel Beltran-Peralta, Jaqai Grey, Mylia Myricks, Anthony Johnson, Tyzhae Romer, TaMar Marshall, Pedro Briseno, Chanel Day; **Back Row:** Kayla Danaher, Tayya Ingram, Laila Barnes, Amiah Hawkins, Angel Green, Patrice Heath, Faith Garrett, Olusoji Oduneye. **Not pictured:** Devin English, Naiya Gillespie, Andrea Tapia, Alexia Williams

Intermediate Orchestra 4th hour

Director: Ms. Diane Rosenthal
Front Row: Ashyah Perry, Itzel Munoz, Kaitlin Raddatz, Nathan Mendoza; **Second Row:** Joshua Brooks, Stephanie Puente, Elizabeth Reyes, Sadia Hildebrand, Jennifer Bugarin, Ms. Diane Rosenthal, Hailee Martin, Angelina Clark, Leanne Tennione, Ti'Mair McMullan, Karlo Sadural; **Third Row:** Brooklyn Chilcott, Kiyah Walker, Melissa Gutierrez, Camille Walls, Santana Southall, Royale Miller, Lauren Young, Deonna Bowens, Sara Laurain; **Fourth Row:** Margaret Wujek, Desiree Alleyne, Annalise Saul, Tavia Campbell, Mikayla Lemons, Robert Hasan, Taylor Ballard, Olivia Taylor, Jasmin Creal; **Fifth Row:** Ma'Kayla Mays, Alexis Lumpkin, Korey Parker, Eric Hollowell, Marvin White, Jr., Jaylen Jones, Javonne Spivey, Jordan Holmes, Ivan Sahagun, Miller Blackwell; **Not Pictured:** Alexa Fernandez, Justin Kiel, Isaiah Maynard, Dawon Velez

Advanced Band

Director: Mr. Mark Danielson
Front Row: Angelina Wilkins, Keili Cruz, Joseph White, Aubin Robinson, Jade Hamilton, Jansen Tan, Kelli Thomas; **Second Row:** Kennedy Cole, Angelica Knox, Mr. Danielson, Ashanti Castleberry, Annie Castleberry, Sabrina Thormann; **Third Row:** Adalberto Acosta, Derrick Jones, Isaiah Henderson, Janae McFerrin, Kayla Josleyn, Leilani Cruz, Emily Stevens, Kristyn Rogers, Jevonte Williams; **Fourth Row:** Sidney Holmes, Daniel Lewis, Jacob Dockins, Cameron Figueroa, Elliott Ruffin, Sarah Thormann, Jimaris Hutch, Gregory Romeo, Cameron La Belle, Samaria Patrick; **Back Row:** Bryan Sobczak, John Sawyer, Cameron Woods, Alberto Velasco, Benjamin Brayfield, Joseph Stevenson, Maurice Morgan, Alexia Smith, Vincente Altieri, Paul Lopez

Jazz Band

Director: Mr. Mark Danielson
Front Row: Si'maya Morgan, Alexis Garcia, Jakia Johnson; **Second Row:** Keili Cruz, Janae McFerrin, Angelica Knox, Mr. Danielson, Kelli Thomas, Annie Castleberry, Matthew Spicknall; **Third Row:** Ashanti Castleberry, Tye Lundin, Sabrina Thormann, Imari Moore, Kristyn Rogers, Derrick Jones; **Fourth Row:** Kayla Josleyn, Adalberto Acosta, Gregory Romeo, Caleb Miller, Giovani Feliciano, Isaiah Henderson, Steven Serrato; **Fifth Row:** Darius Lewis, Vincente Altieri, Samaria Patrick, Benjamin Brayfield, Bryan Sobczak, Sidney Holmes, Alberto Velasco

Beginning Band

Director: Mr. Mark Danielson
Front Row: Jakia Johnson, Myia Dickerson, Jackie Salinas, Navia Thomas, Sonia Baranski, Beah Corrales, Alexis Fox; **Second Row:** Kaitlin Bowens, Si'maya Morgan, Everett Lewis, Mr. Danielson, Da'Nyjah Wash, Donnicci Marshall, Gavin Lipsky, Terrell Dowell; **Third Row:** Tye Lundin, RaShaun Donald, Deveon Lipson, Jhaiden Lastic, Preston Martin, Ronell Lyles, Imari Moore, Jayla Wardlaw, Alyssa Lopez; **Fourth Row:** Sean Dennehe, Steven Serrato, Ryan Hollingsworth, Tiffany Vaughn, Elijah Walker, Nicholas Lewis, Gabriel Lopez, Isaiah Smith; **Back Row:** David Brnicky, Jeremie Lander, Zion Garcia, Adrian Lopez, Breijon Peters, Micah Gholson, Darius Lewis, Brianna Johnson, Johnny Davis

Yes/Key Club

Sponsor: Mr. Tim Stewart
Front Row: Janel Roberts, Amnah Asghar, Yulissa Gonzalez, Sadia Hildebrand
Second Row: Mr. Stewart, Brandon Dawning, Hailey Karpen, Reem Sulieman, Najalynn Chandler, Janaye Thomas

Intermediate Band

Director: Mr. Mark Danielson
Front Row: Rebecca Saluska, Mr. Danielson, Ashanti Lenoir, Camdoen Martin; **Second Row:** Jairius Hayden, Zach Martin, Arianna Chatman, Christina Smith; **Third Row:** Jordan Barksdale, Leah Sams, Bryce Ervin, Kristopher Serrato, Giovani Feliciano; **Fourth Row:** Justyn Jones, Caleb Miller, Isaiah Henderson, Malachi Williams

Student Government

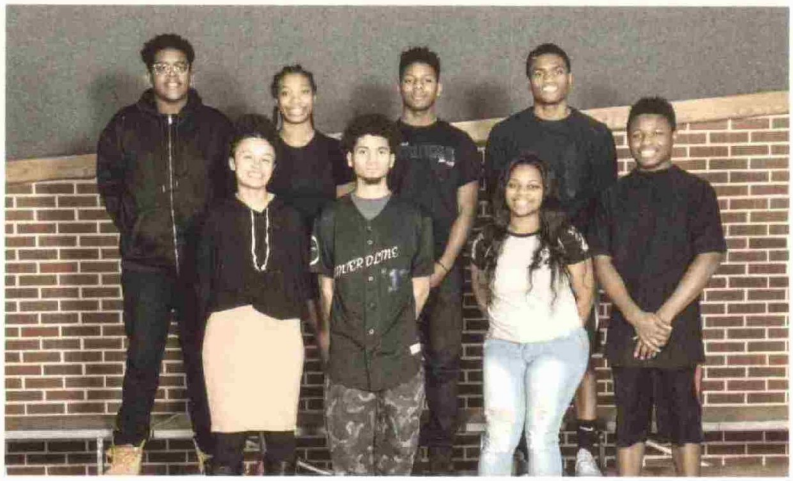
Sponsor: Ms. Sheryl Loving
Front Row: Destiny Salgado, Sabrina Thormann, Kennedy Cole, Kiyah Walker; **Second Row:** Jada Edwards, SaNiah Isabell, Kaiya Harris, Camille Fuller, Ms. Sherry Loving; **Third Row:** Brianna Ward, Carrington Morse, Madison Bullock, Czaria Freeman, Maritza Frazier; **Back Row:** Reem Sulieman, Deshaun Hoover, Alexia Smith, Joi Roche, Karynton Holliday

Class officers

Front Row: Seniors - Jada Edwards, Ashlyn Robinson, Carrington Morse, Madison Bullock; **Second Row:** Juniors - Jasmin Creal, Najalynn Chandler - President, Moriah Jones - Vice President, Serena Robertson - Secertary; **Third Row:** Sophomores - Telemachus Hudson, Natalie Ordonez, Amani Alvarez, Lorena Carbajal; **Back Row:** Freshman - Ayanna Edwards, Amira Hamed, Jameelah Ali, Kayla McKinney

Impact Day Facilitators

Sponsor: Mrs. Beverly VanDrunen
Front Row: Monique Guydon, Zaria Rock, Carly Gubitz; Second Row: Taelor Hill, Britney Robinson, Viviana Lagunas, Payton McHenry; Third Row: Skye Baso, Mia Godfrey, Dre'Shon Garrett, Ms. VanDrunen; Back Row: Alex Navarro, Jaden Lewis, Olivia Taylor, Drew Bailey, Tatiana Peters



Bible Club

Sponsors: Mr. Anthony Patton & Mr. Dana Moslander
Front Row: Tatiana Peters, Cameron Figueroa, Zaria Rock, Mikel Evans; **Second Row:** Bryan Fields, Chyna Royster, Breijon Peters, Chaz Sales

Environmental Club

Sponsor: Mr. Ben Nicksic
Front Row: Mr. Nicksic, Ariel Riley, Naomi Griffin, Sadia Hildebrand

Academic Decathlon

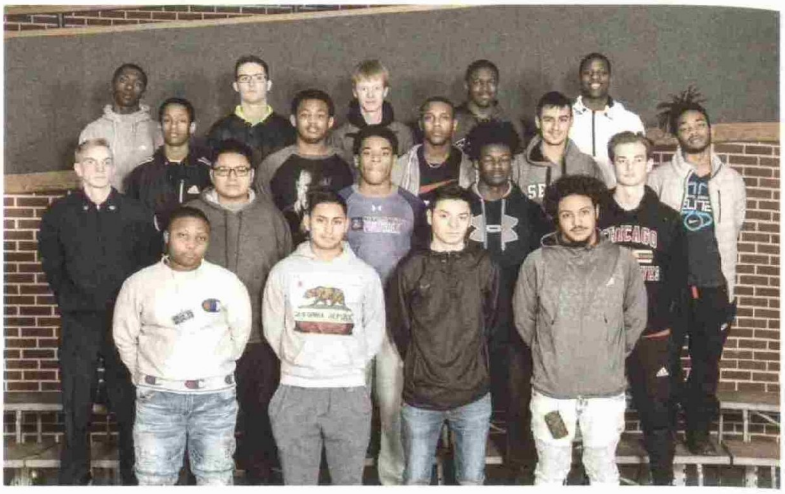
Sponsors: Mrs. Rachel Sonnenberg & Mr. Jason Sonnenberg
Front Row: Imani Butts and Joy Obong; **Back Row:** Reem Sulieman, Robert Hasan, Arshawn Wynn

Society of Student Authors

Sponsor: Mrs. Melissa Sickinger
Front Row: Asia Gray, Kinnedi Davis, Jasmine Collins

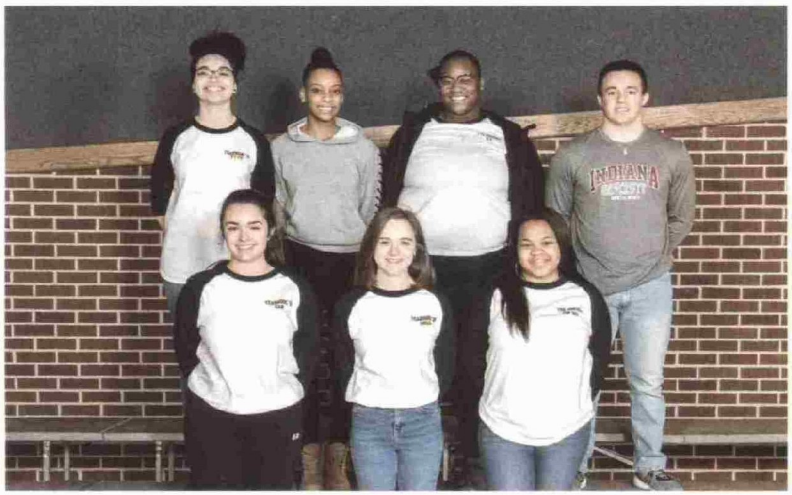
PNN

Sponsors: Mr. Brian Past & Mr. Josh Harvoth
Front Row: Jermani Keys, Vanessa Gomez, Meagan Wise, Jubilee Topps, Imani Butts, Maleya Hall; **Second Row:** Aaron Vara, Christian Howard, Abigail Diaz, Kyla McCoy, Eileen Schiessler; **Third Row:** Jhonae' Garmon, Bailey Rapavi, Christian Gonzalez, Alana Winters, Jakobe Wilbon; **Back Row:** Mr. Brian Past, Niko Djukic, Julian Henderson, Trinity Hobbs, Cayman Holley, Mr. Josh Harvoth.



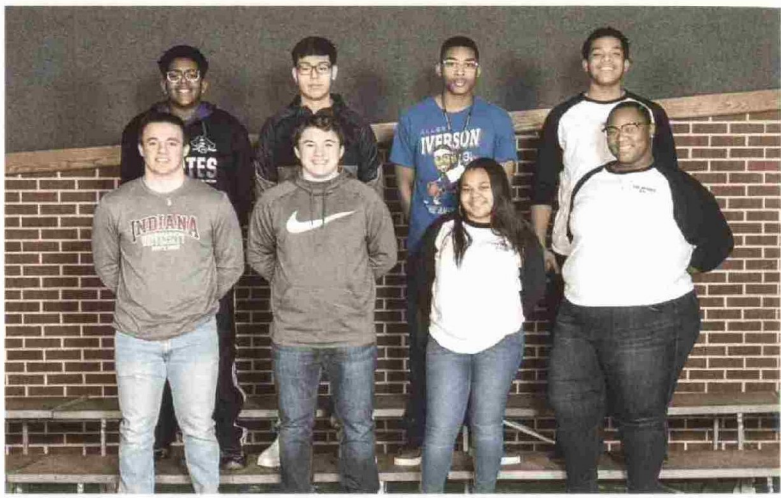
Building Trades

Sponsor: Greg Pierson
Front Row: Tramone Woods, Jairus Sykes, Daniel Barajas, Juan Carrillo, Noah Pryor; **Second Row:** Timothy Sunny, Jordan Abeyta, Michael Shell, Jawanza Williams, Dylan Burns; **Third Row:** Larell Dow, Markeonti Teamer, Daijon Gray, Nicholas Groleau, Brandon Platts; **Back Row:** Khamari Andrews, Keith Rochefort Jr., Hayden Harmon, Darieus Westbrook, Dominic Bethel



Quill & Scroll

Sponsor: Mrs. Alison Skertic
Front Row: Danielle Castaneda, Molly Murphy, Ashlyn Robinson; **Back Row:** Tyler Patterson, Alexia Smith, Azariah Avery, Max Govert. Not pictured: Bryan Fields.



Newspaper

Sponsor: Mrs. Alison Skertic
Front Row: Max Govert, Jacob McDonald, Ashlyn Robinson, Azariah Avery; **Back Row:** Bryan Fields, Marco Hernandez, Irvin Pirtle, Ryan Atkins Frazier; Not pictured: Abigail Diaz and Diamond Morris

Debate Team

Sponsor: Mr. Alan Mizimakoski
Front Row: Kinnedi Davis, Jasmine Collins, Kelli Thomas; **Second Row:** Justin Bhe, Jack Scolaro, Emmanuel Ogugua, Mr. Mizimakoski

SADD

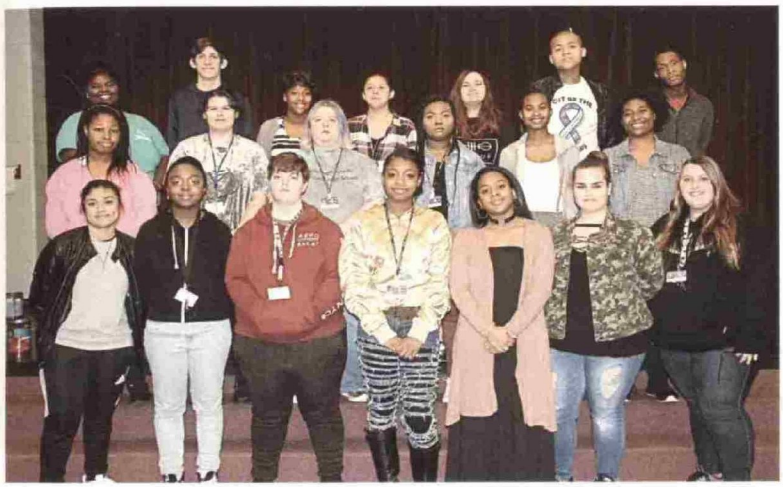
Sponsor: Ms. Katelyn Holsclaw
Front Row: Peyton Rose, Heather Herrera, Kiyah Walker; **Second Row:** Gabrielle Schindler, Te'Onna Gordon, Taylashe Ferguson; **Back Row:** Colbie Word, Isis Davis, Arielle Lackey, Ajanae Burley.

STAND

Sponsors: Ms. Beverly VanDrunen & Ms. Neerja Prasad
Front Row: Jovan Johnson Jr., Tasha Neal, Zaria Rock, Olivia Taylor, Cameron Figueroa, Tatiana Peters, Carly Gubitz; **Second Row:** Joy Obong, Payton McHenry, Kiyah Walker, Naomi Griffin, Molly Murphy; **Third Row:** Ms. Prasad, Kayla Alcox, Donnicci Marshall, Briana Williams, Brookelyn Burks, Ms.VanDrunen; **Fourth Row:** Danayja Warren, SaNiah Isabell, Mercedes Kurtis, Donmeique Yates, Chairre Harris; **Fifth Row:** Avery Timmons, Samuel Washington, Hailey Karpen, Paul Lopez, Chyna Royster, Acaiya Timmons

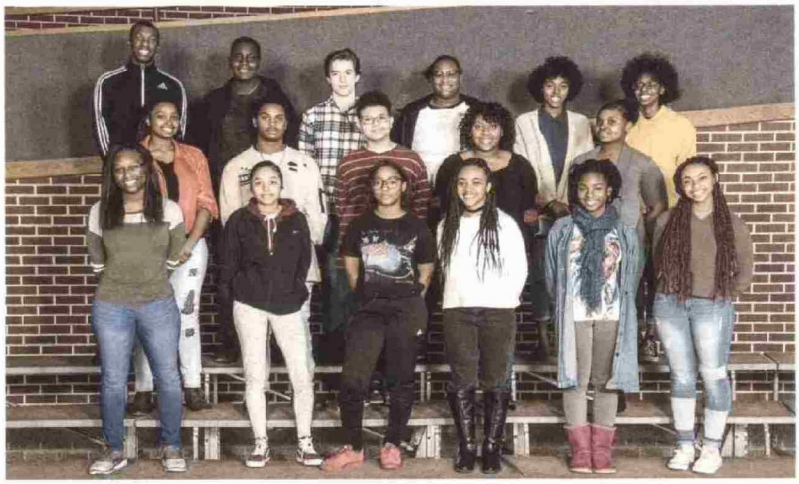
Thespian Troupe

Sponsor: Mr. Tom Mackey
Front Row: Jasmine Jaramillo, Kelli Thomas, Mia Godfrey, John Grace Jr., Taijah Smith; **Second Row:** Kailey Walaszek, Jadyn Lawson, Leia Mesarch, Jada Wingate, Carly Sheets, Lauren Moody, Myia Dickerson; **Third Row:** Azjanae Cruz, Erryonne Watts, Kaitlin Bowens, Kaylah Johnson, Siman McElroy, Nicole Hollowell, Brook Stone Byerly; **Fourth Row:** Jordan Muchenburg, Keith Barnard, Jacqueline Lewis, Tyler Russell, Aaliyah Perry, Alianna Encinas, JaKobe Wilbon, Jaydon Wilbon; **Back Row:** Mr. Tom Mackey, Tyler Patterson, Destiny Walker, Faith Garrett, David White, Trenton Hutch, Matthew Spicknall.



Gay-Straight Alliance

Sponsors: Ms. Katelyn Holsclaw
Front Row: Heather Herrera, Ariana Booker, Sophia Upchurch, Jamesha Simmons, Heaven Allen, Carly Sheets, Brook Stone Byerly; **Second Row:** Jada Wingate, Gabrielle Schindler, Rebecca Saluska, SaNiah Isabell, TeOnna Gordon, Peyton Rose, **Back Row:** Ajanae Burley, Joshua Raddatz, Taylashe Ferguson, Jennifer Baray, Jillian Skokal, Avery Timmons, Dimitruis Payne

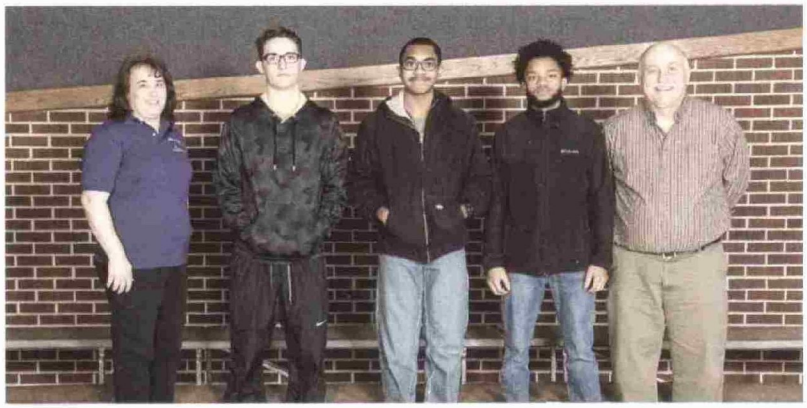


Mock Trial

Sponsor: Mrs. Alison Skertic
Front Row: Ariel Riley, Daniella Uvalle, Amia Giddens, Imani Butts, Ja'Leah Walker, Deverieux Coleman; **Second Row:** Jacqueline Lewis, Jaden Lewis, Brendan Wolski, DeAnna Burton, Brookelyn Burks; **Third Row:** Joenathan Smith, Emmanuel Ogugua, Jack Scolaro, Azariah Avery, Chanelle LeGrand, Danielle LeGrand; Not pictured: Nialah Clay, Nina Scott, Asia Gray

Science Olympiad

Sponsors: Ms. Ronda Waters & Ms. Jacki Fernandez
Front Row: Ms. Waters, Reem Sulieman, Robert Hasan, Moriah Jones, Trayten Mikesell, Ms. Fernandez



J.E.T.S.

Sponsors: Ms. Ronda Waters & Mr. Gary Schlinger
Front Row: Ms. Waters, Keith Rochefort Jr., Timothy Hughes, Aahron Whitehead, Mr. Schlinger.

Advanced Armed

Sponsors: Lt. Col. Michael Sax & SMSgt Daniel Wrasman
Front Row: Cristal Mena, Brooklyn Ford, Kayla Hudson, Sam Perea, Angelina Wilkins; **Second Row:** Kristyl Haymon, Samora Patrick, Joshua Milla, Jonathan Collins; **Back Row:** Eric Hollowell, Jacob Loyd, Cameron Chenault, Raymond Davila, Masayoshi Nangin.

Advanced Unarmed

Sponsors: Lt. Col. Michael Sax & SMSgt Daniel Wrasman
Front row: Brooklyn Ford, Eric Hollowell, Samora Patrick, Joshua Milla, Jonathan Collins, Cristal Mena; **Back row**: Stephanie Herrera, Jacob Lloyd, Cameron Chenault, Raymond Davila, Masayoshi Nangin.

Top Six

Sponsors: Lt. Col. Michael Sax & SMSgt Daniel Wrasman
Front Row: Kyra Stevens, Joshua Milla, Samora Patrick; **Back Row:** Raymond Davila, Roheim Manuel, Trayton Mikeseli

Color Guard

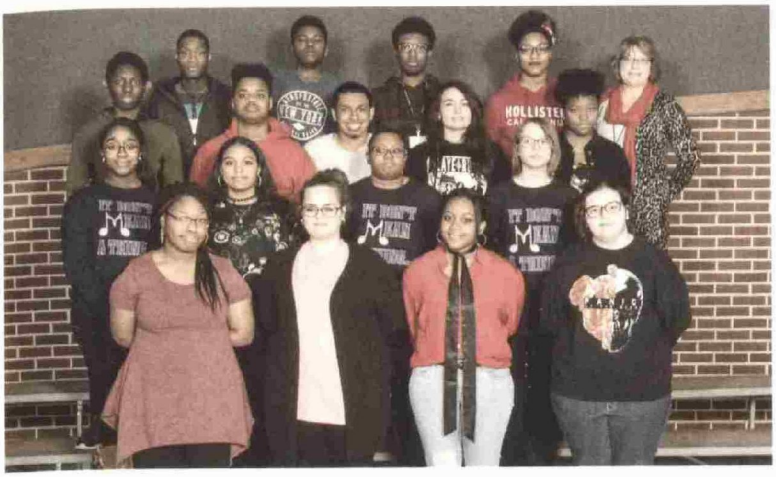
Sponsors: Lt. Col. Michael Sax & SMSgt Daniel Wrasman
Front Row: Kayla Hudson, Joshua Milla, Samara Patrick, Dizelle Pierson; **Second Row:** Eric Hollowell, Jacob Lloyd, Raymond Davila, Elijah Collins, Bailey Smith.

First Year Drill Team

Sponsors: Lt. Col. Michael Sax & SMSgt Daniel Wrasman
Front row: Brianna San Souci, Tamila Riley, Andrea Tice; **Back Row:** Alexis Cuatzil, Bailey Smith, Elijah Collins, Elijah Mariani.

Exhibition

Sponsors: Lt. Col. Michael Sax & SMSgt Daniel Wrasman
Front Row: Jon Tomlinson, Kristyl Haymon, Brooklyn Ford, Joshua Milla, Jonathan Collins, Sam Perea; **Back Row:** Eric Hollowell, Jacob Lloyd, Raymond Davila, Masayoshi Nangin, Samara Patrick.



Art Club

Sponsor: Mrs. Janet Anderson
Front Row: Jada Wingate, Carly Sheets, Heaven Allen, Margaret Wujek; **Second Row:** Erryonne Watts, Allison Polk, Ti'mair McMullan, Kayla Danaher; **Third Row:** David Hagan Jr.; Jarren Robinson, Wade Flournoy, Sarah Juarez, Ayanna Edwards; **Back Row:** Dimitruis Payne, Jehmiah Washington, Myles Reynolds, Alissa Sales, Mrs. Janet Anderson.

NHS

Sponsor: Mrs. Melissa Sickinger & Ms. Erin Flores
Front Row: Kamri Smith, Molly Murphy, Victoria Gromek, Angelica Knox, Cara Blanford, Kennedy Tanniehill, Dulce Cuazitl; **Second Row:** Kennedy Cole, Leayah Hines, La'Deja Rand, Kiariah Carter, Shaina Williams, Autumn Kiser, Mia Godfrey; **Third Row:** Cryst'n Morgan, Emily Lesich, Elizabeth Hibbler, Kinnedi Davis, Miranda Cuozzo, Cameron Figueroa, Alana Winters; **Back Row:** Tatiana Peters, Brandon Dawning, Kyle Noonan, John Sawyer, Jasmine Collins, Justin Bhe, Keith Barnard

Permanent Ink

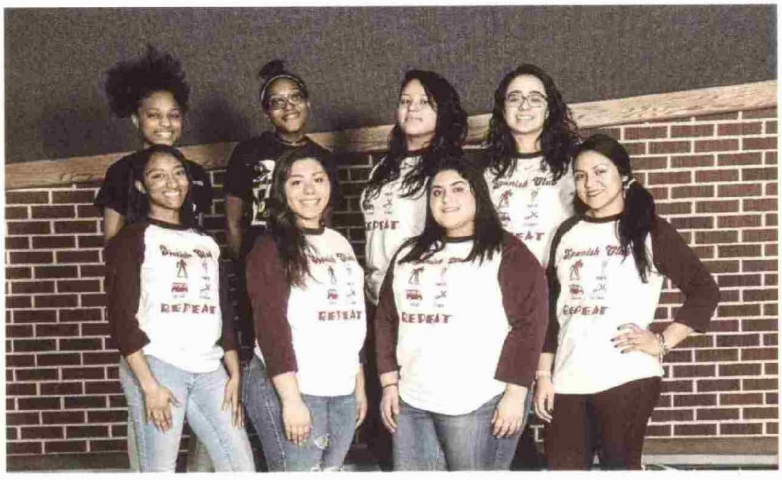
Coaches: Mr. Dave Hosslere & Mr. Paul Trembacki
Front Row: Hayley Roagel, Da'nyjah Wash, Rebecca Saluska, Maleya Hall, Ja'Leah Walker; **Second Row:** Kira Morando, Moriah Madkins, Alysa Adams, Brookelyn Burks, Tiffany Vaughn, Jillian Skokal; **Third Row:** Mr. Dave Hossler, Avery Timmons, Kaila Buggs, Joey Froglia, Mr. Paul Trembacki; Not Pictured: Robert Adams

French Club

Sponsor: Ms. Irene Spiro
Front Row: Diamond Sanders, Joy Obong, Brook Stone Byerly, Carly Sheets, Heaven Allen, Sadia Hildebrand; **Second Row:** Leilani Cruz, Erryonne Watts, Naomi Fields, Te'Reyah Gaines, Autumn Kiser; **Back Row:** Ms. Irene Spiro, Damian Davila, Dimitruis Payne, Destiny Dantzler, Jaden LaRue, Mme. Melissa Byerly.

FCCLA

Sponsor: Ms. Carol VonBehren
Front Row: Ms. VonBehren, Elyssa Jenkins, Kylie Gidley, Arianna Aviles, Amya Aviles; **Second Row:** Dorothy Oduwaye, Jamala Crosby, Mercedes Williams, Jadavia Czavin, Santana Southall, Kelli Thomas; **Third Row:** Damian Davila, Robyn Greene, Alana Winters, Michae Campbell, Annalise Saul



Spanish Club

Sponsor: Ms Esmeralda Zamora
Front Row: Camille Fuller, Itzel Viramontes-Renteria, Xitlalic Viramontes-Renteria, Ms Zamora; **Second Row:** Jadah Yanders, Kristyn Rogers, Alexus Palomo, Abigail Diaz

Freshman Mentors/Seniors

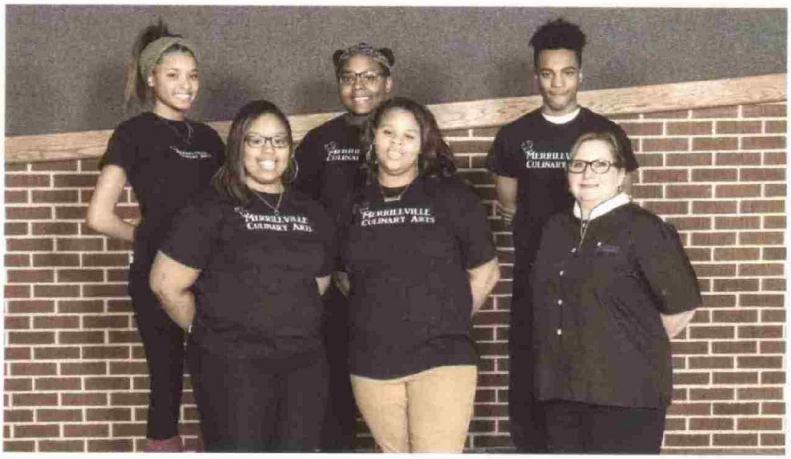
Sponsors: Mrs. Sarah Daniels & Ms. Carol Dahlan

Front Row: Jada Edwards, Ashlyn Robinson, Kaylin Jones, Zaria A. Rock, Linyhia Meux-Miller, Carly Gubitz, Molly Murphy, Dulce Cuazitl, Kennedy Tanniehill, Madison Bullock; **Second Row:** Kaniyah Pharms, Viviana Lagunas, Mia Godfrey, Kamri Smith, Meagan Wise, Jubilee Topps, Kennedy Cole, Czaria Freeman; **Third Row:** Taylashe Ferguson, Emily Lesich, Abigail Diaz, Aaron Vara, Rosario Contreras, Angelica Knox, Carrington Morse, Diamond Morris, Jadah Yanders; **Fourth Row:** Mrs. Daniels, Denae Joshua, Kiarra Jones, Alana Winters, DeAnna Burton, Cameron Figueroa, Keelan Outlar, Ivelisse Taylor, Taylor Ballard, Ke'leica Junigan, Tyler Russell, Ms. Dahlan; **Back Row:** DaVeon Coty, Braedan Stubbs, Kendall Tanniehill, Dontrell Pope, Caleb Hiller, Jada Johnson, Alexis Lumpkin, Kayla Trotter, Aahron Whitehead

Freshman Mentors/Juniors

Sponsors: Mrs. Sarah Daniels and Ms. Carol Dahlan

Front Row: Serena Robertson, Aliyah McLain, Cheyenne Roberts, Amya Aviles, Camille Walls, Maryam Muhammad; **Second Row:** A'mya Jamison, Kelli Thomas, Kailey Walaszek, Maria Tan, Kiyah Walker, Jermain' Keys; **Third Row:** Jaden Lewis, Jadyn Lawson, SaNiah Isabell, Dakari Alford, Cheyenne Figueroa, Najalynn Chandler; **Fourth Row:** Geanna Smith, Jasmin Creal, Kylah Nicholson, Deep Patel, Joe Roche, Lauryn Thomas, Janaye Thomas, Jontrell Crowder; **Back Row:** Joenathan Smith, Darius Marteen, Kaila Buggs, Jadon Mason, Hailey Karpen, Colbie Word, Oluwaseyi Akinwumi, Paul Lopez Jr.



Culinary

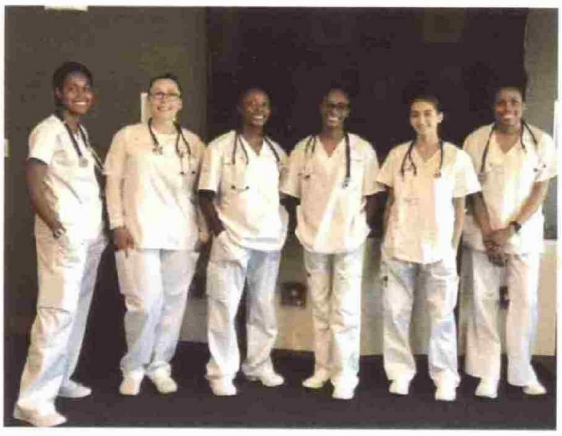
Sponsor: Ms. Patti Tubbs

Front Row: Jamala Crosby, Taylor Bryant, Ms. Tubbs; **Second Row:** Dominique Holden, Isis Davis, Dondre Wall

Educators Rising

Sponsor: Ms. Pat Smith

Front Row: Azjanae Cruz, Viviana Lagunas, Samantha Osborne; **Second Row:** Skye Baso, Marquise Harper, Mrs. Smith, Eric Ramos



Nursing

Sponsor: Mr. Daniel Schoon

Natalie Dye, Autumn Kiser, Diamond Morris, Diamond Taher, Aleni Shomo and Tasha Neal.

Nursing

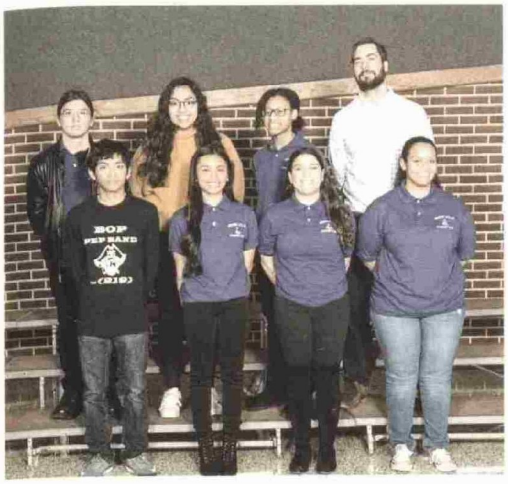
Sponsor: Mr. Daniel Schoon

Front Row: Amya Aviles, Arianna Aviles; **Back Row:** Dionna Anderson, Briana Dean, Madison Bullock, Gwyneth Troupe, Joy Obong, Kiarra Jones

Chess Club

Sponsor: Mr. Sean Meagher

Front Row: Julian Lewis, Rejon Miller; **Back Row:** Mr. Meagher, Curtis Rias, Jack Scolaro



Academic Super Bowl

Sponsors: Mr. Paul Unterfranz; Ms. Debbie Monix
Front Row: Jansen Tan, Maria Tan, Carly Gubitz, Jazmyn Velazquez; **Second Row:** Robert Hasan, Reem Sulieman, Janaye Thomas, Mr. Unterfranz

Spell Bowl

Sponsor: Ms. Debbie Monix
Front Row: Carly Gubitz, Maria Tan, Jansen Tan
Second Row: Mia Godfrey, Cheyenne Figueroa, Janaye Thomas

Student Athletic Trainers

Coach: Ms. Sue Hayes
Royale Miller, Cora'Taya Adams, Monique Guydon, Janelle Scott

Robotics

Coaches: Mr. Charles Seligman & Mr. Patrick Cudzilo
Front Row: Christopher Best, Emmani Ellis, Deshaun Williams, Arshawn Wynn; **Second Row:** Christopher Riveron, Hailey Karpen, Michael Duran; **Third Row:** Mr. Cudzilo, Mr. Seligman

Quiz Bowl

Sponsors: Mrs. Melissa Sickinger
Front Row: Leia Mesarch, Jansen Tan, Molly Murphy, Carly Gubitz; **Second Row:** Scarlett Peralta, Asia Gray, Kinnedi Davis, Cheyenne Figueroa, Maria Tan; **Back Row:** Kyle Noonan, John Sawyer, Jasmine Collins, Sarah Juarez

Peer tutors

Sponsors: Ms. Alicia Lasky & Ms. Beth O'Halek
Front Row: Mercedes Williams Taylashe Ferguson, Samantha Osborne, Jadyn Lawson, Autumn Kiser, Allison Rodriguez , Kayla Hudson, Maleya Hall, Aaliyah King, Itzel Viramontes-Renteria. Shontiana Terry, Cayla Jenkins; **Second Row:** Jaihla Gordon, Cayla Trotter, Natalya Durham, Deameka Crawford, Tiarra Jones, Medina Griffin, Donovan Wright, Tiana Lyles, D'mia Smith, Trinity Hammack, Atiya Holmes, Kentrell Jolley, Ayanna Felton; **Back Row:** Karis Toney, Derion Unger, Angel Simpson, Prysma Valdivia, Amariah Smith, Rah'naysha Boyd, Yantrel Edwards, Alex Navarro, Gabriyan Young, Robyn Greene, Brian Ward, Dawon Velez, Ms. Lasky

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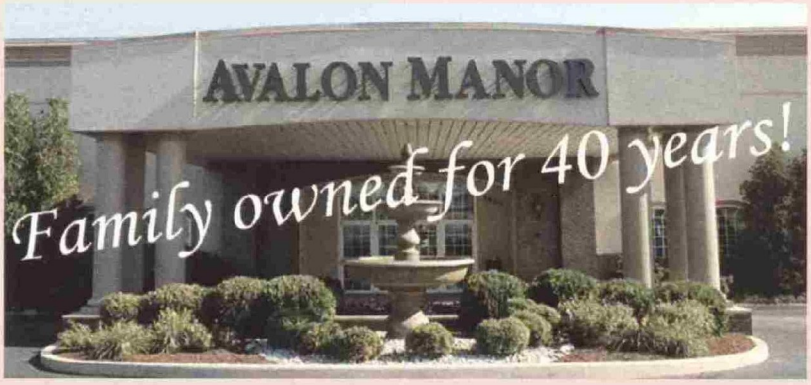

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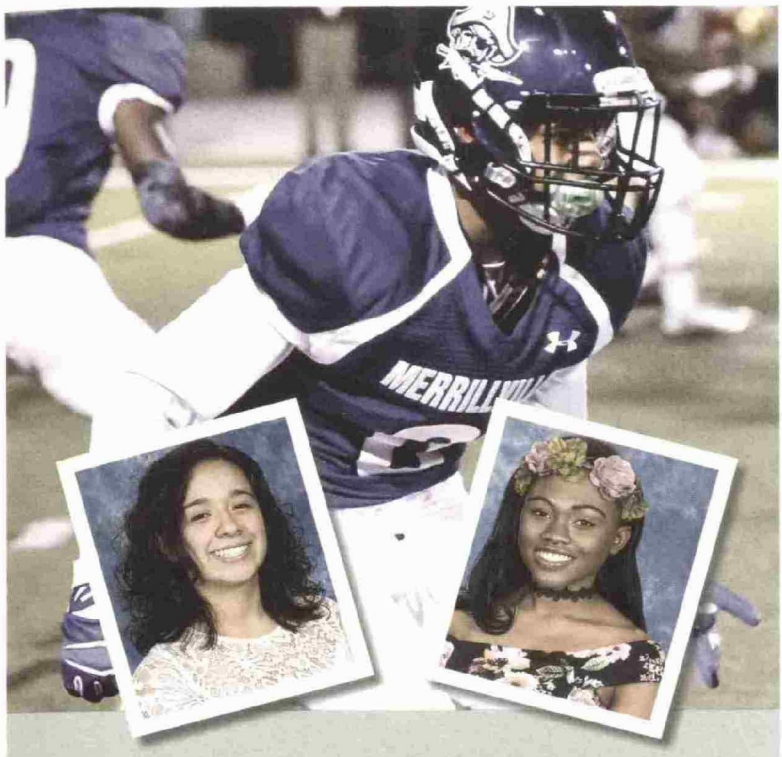

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Briana Williams

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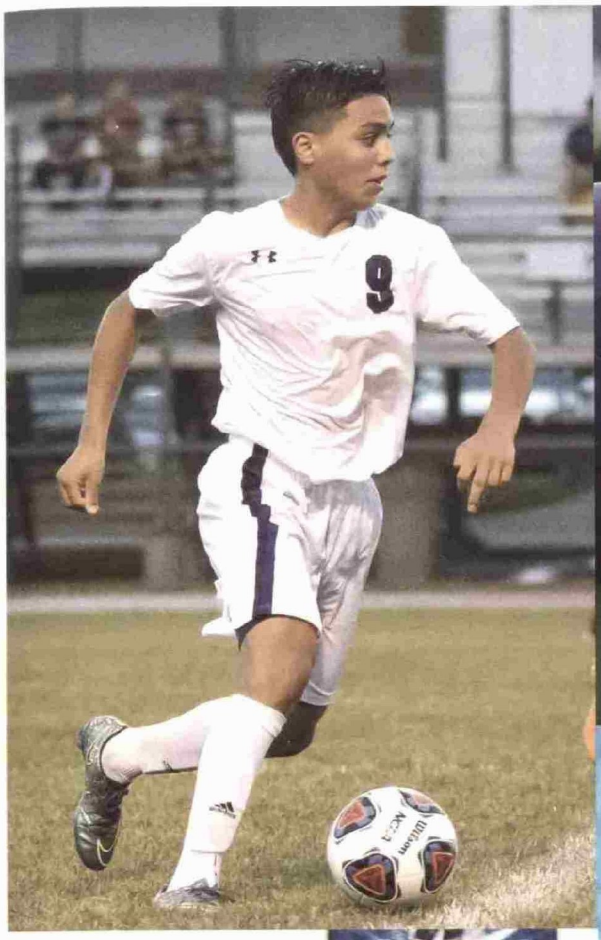

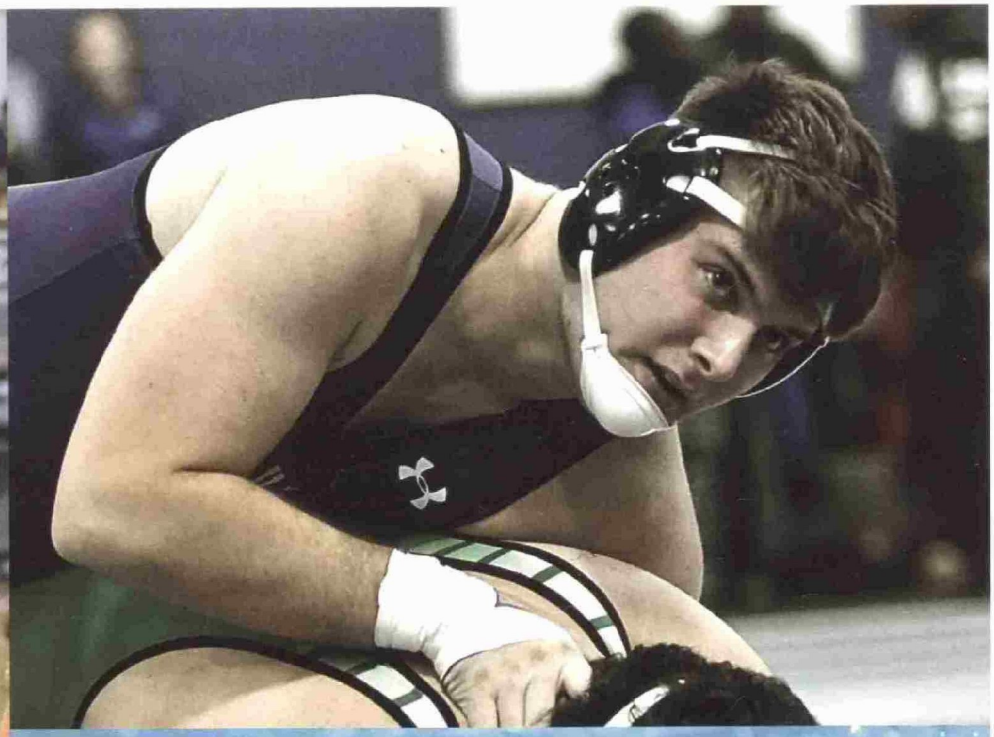

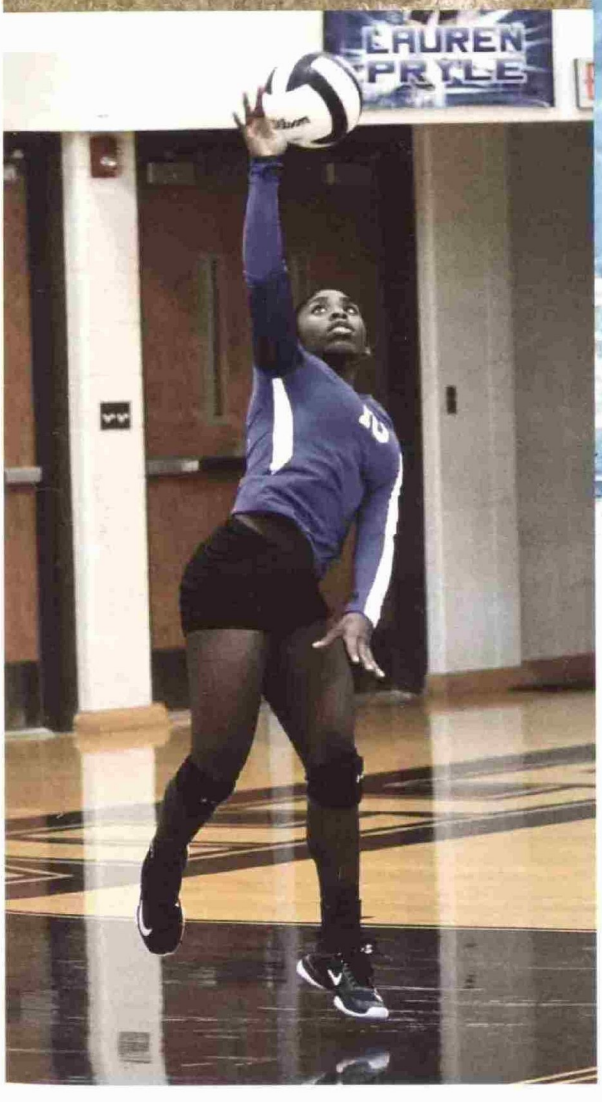

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- Head lice
- Immunizations
- Sports Physicals
- Treatment for pink eye
- Acne treatment
- Assessing and treating injuries or illnesses

Health Center located at the Merrillville High School

Elana Harris, FNP-C, M.Ed.
Family Nurse Practitioner

Education:

Associate of Applied Science
Purdue University
Hammond, IN

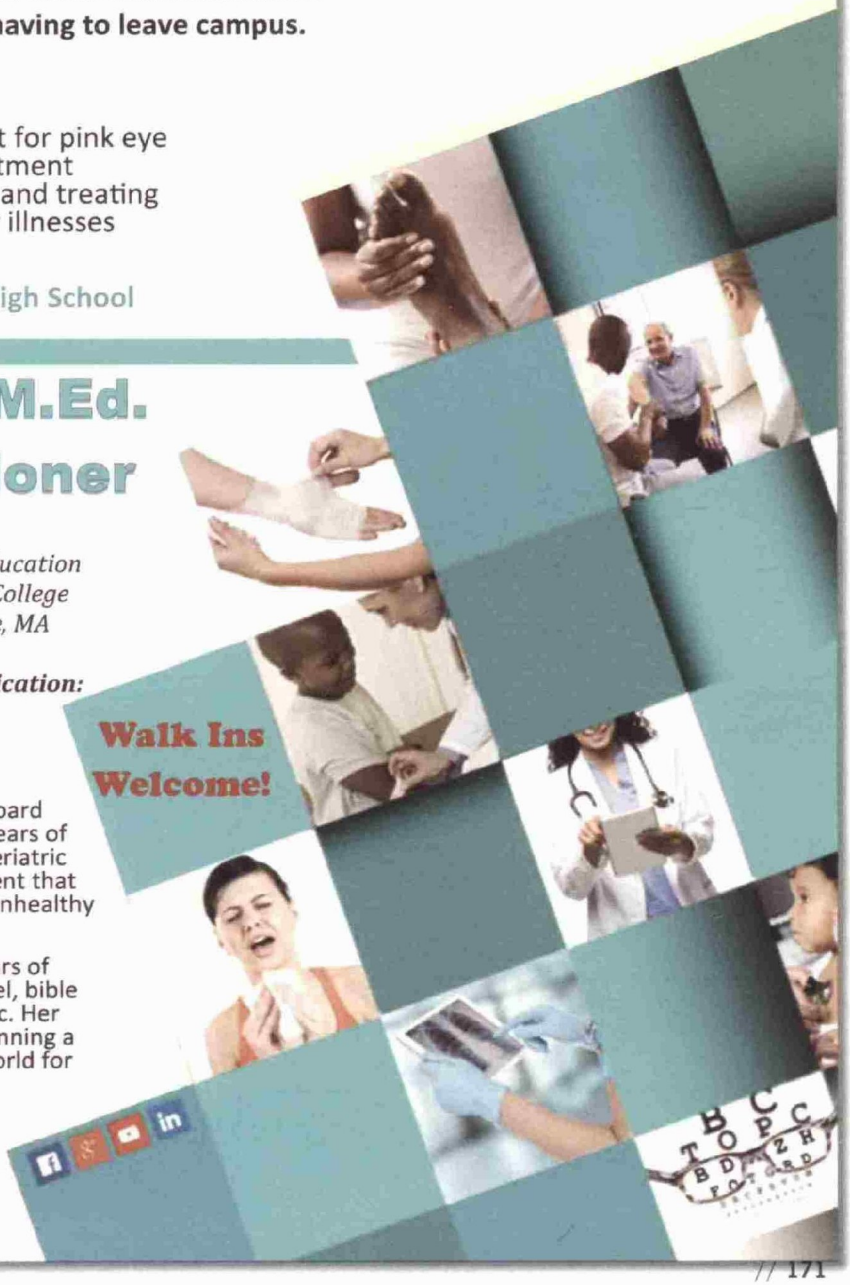
Masters of Education
Cambridge College
Cambridge, MA

Bachelor of Science
Purdue University
Hammond, IN

Board Certification:
ANCC

Elana has been a nurse over 30 years and was initially board certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner in 1991. She has years of experience in labor and delivery, school nursing, and geriatric psychiatry. Elana agrees with Dr. Jocelyn Elders' statement that you can't educate an unhealthy child, and a child that is unhealthy cannot be educated.

Elana has 2 children and 9 grandchildren. After 35 years of marriage she became widowed in 2018. She enjoys travel, bible study, gardening, bike riding, and listening to live music. Her bucket list includes experiencing the Aurora Borealis, running a mile daily, and taking all the grandchildren to Disney World for vacation.



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colophon

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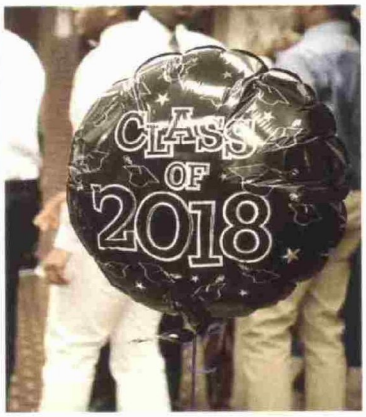
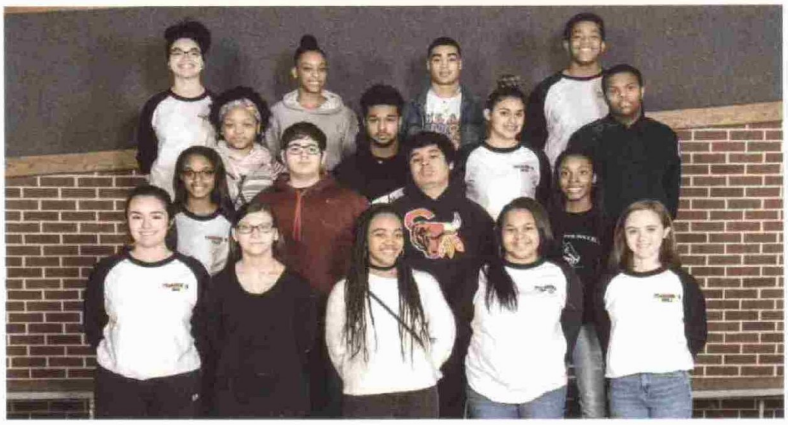
Finally, we would like to thank Principal Mike Krutz, the entire administration, guidance department and staff for their assistance in making this book. It could not be done without the help of the entire Pirate family.



Saying goodbye // Yearbook co-editors Molly Murphy and Danielle Castaneda pose together on graduation night.



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